

MontCAS

(Montana Comprehensive Assessment System)

English Language Proficiency Assessment

MontCAS English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment

Technical Report

2009–2010

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MontCAS English Language Proficiency (ELP) 2009–2010 Technical Report

1. Purpose of the Technical Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) as well as Montana educators, citizens, researchers, and other interested parties with technical documentation for the development, administration, and reporting of the Fall 2009 administration of the MontCAS English Language Proficiency Assessment (MontCAS ELP). This report includes evidence of the reliability and validity of the assessment as well as other information about test administration and results. Although this technical report covers the 2009–2010 administration of the MontCAS ELP, some data from the previous administrations are included for reference and comparison.

2. Description of the MontCAS ELP

2.1 Purpose of the MontCAS ELP. The Montana English Language Proficiency Assessment (MontCAS ELP) is an assessment of English language proficiency for grades K-12. It is a modified version of an assessment developed for the Mountain West Consortium and designed to fulfill the requirements of “No Child Left Behind” (NCLB) legislation. The MontCAS ELP assesses English proficiency in Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing, and reports scores in each of those language domains as well as in Comprehension (a combination of select items from the Listening and Reading tests) and a total score, representing overall English proficiency. The MontCAS ELP was designed to assess the status of a student’s proficiency in English and to measure progress in attaining English proficiency.

The MontCAS ELP was designed to be administered to all students who have been identified as “limited English proficient” (LEP) in the State of Montana. The process for identifying students as LEP is controlled at the district level and may include administering the Home Language Survey as well as one or more of a number of assessments. The instructions printed in the *MontCAS ELP Test Administrator Manuals* read as follows:

Montana observes the federal definition of limited English proficiency. Both language impact and academic achievement must be considered when identifying LEP students. A student must be identified as one of the following:

1. an individual who was not born in the U.S. or whose native language is a language other than English;

2. an individual who comes from an environment where a language other than English is dominant;
3. an individual who is American Indian or Alaskan Native and who comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on the individual's level of English language proficiency.

The student must also have sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language to deny such an individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English or to participate fully in our society.

The LEP population in the state of Montana is different from that of many other states. In Montana, up to 80% of the students identified as LEP are of American Indian descent and are very likely growing up in communities where English is the primary language. However, the English used in those communities may very well be a nonstandard version. The uniqueness of student populations in the Western United States, including the prevalence of students of American Indians descent, was part of the impetus for the formation of the Mountain West Consortium. The test development procedures (Matthews, 2007) took the characteristics of the student population in member states into consideration. Although the population in Montana includes a higher percentage students of American Indian descent, that population is not qualitatively different from that of other Mountain West member states.

2.2 Structure of the MontCAS ELP. MontCAS ELP test forms were designed for specific grade/grade clusters: K, 1–2, 3–5, 6–8, and 9–12. For every grade cluster except Kindergarten, there are two forms differentiated by a number suffix (e.g., C1 and C2). The Level 1 forms were designed to be administered to students on the lower end of the English proficiency scale (i.e., Beginner) and the Level 2 forms designed for students on the upper end of the scale (i.e., Intermediate and Advanced).

MontCAS ELP 2006–2007. The first set of MontCAS ELP forms, designated MontCAS ELP 2006–2007, was administered in Fall 2006. These forms were based on Mountain West Form I and were previously administered in Idaho as the Idaho English Language Proficiency Assessment (IELA). Item development for all items that were developed by the Mountain West Consortium was done in accordance with procedures outlined in Matthews (2007). More detailed information about the MontCAS ELP 2006–2007 forms is included in the *MontCAS ELP Technical Report, 2006–2007*.

MontCAS ELP 2007–2008. A second set of MontCAS ELP forms, designated MontCAS ELP 2007–2008, was administered in fall 2007. The MontCAS ELP 2007–2008 forms were similar in

structure to the MontCAS ELP 2006–2007 forms but with approximately 70% different items. The new items on MontCAS ELP 2007–2008 were developed as part of the original Mountain West Consortium item development and were drawn from the Mountain West item bank (i.e., Forms II and III). Prior to their use on MontCAS ELP forms, Mountain West items that had not been previously used on MontCAS ELP test forms were reviewed for content and structure and edited where appropriate. Directions for administration were revised, where necessary and appropriate, to conform to the conventions adopted in MontCAS ELP 2006–2007. The MontCAS ELP 2007–2008 forms were previously administered in Idaho in Spring 2007 as the IELA. All edits to items were made in advance of the administration of the test in Idaho. Items that were in common between the 2006–2007 and 2007–2008 forms served as anchor items to equate the 2007–2008 to the 2006–2007 forms. More detailed information about these forms is included in the *MontCAS ELP Technical Report, 2007–2008*.

MontCAS ELP 2008–2009. A third set of MontCAS ELP forms, designated MontCAS ELP 2008–2009, was developed for administration in Fall 2008. Although these forms were developed using items that had appeared on earlier MontCAS ELP (2006–2007 and 2007–2008) forms, they differed somewhat from the structure of the 2006 and 2007 MontCAS ELP forms in several ways. First, 2008 MontCAS ELP forms were shorter in terms of number of points per language domain than their predecessors. This shortening was related to several of the following changes. Second, whereas in previous versions of MontCAS ELP, the same Speaking and Listening items appeared on Level 1 and Level 2 forms within a grade cluster, on 2008 MontCAS ELP, the majority of items on Level 1 Speaking and Listening tests within each grade cluster were different from those on the Level 2 Listening and Speaking tests (i.e., only Level 1 to Level 2 linking items were common). Third, the difficulty of the 2008 MontCAS ELP forms was adjusted to align Level 2 forms more closely with the abilities of students to whom they were being administered. This latter change was implemented because the results of previous MontCAS ELP administrations suggested that the Level 2 forms were not challenging enough to capture performance at the upper levels of English proficiency.

MontCAS ELP 2009–2010. MontCAS ELP forms administered in 2009, designated MontCAS ELP 2009–2010, were developed using items from the Mountain West Item bank that had appeared on earlier versions of the MontCAS ELP as well as additional items developed for the state of Idaho and used on the IELA in Spring 2009. Details of the item development are presented in a later section of this report. Items that were in common between the forms administered in Idaho in 2008 and those administered in 2009 served as anchor items to equate the MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 forms to the MontCAS ELP 2008–2009 forms. More information about equating forms is included in Section 7 of this report.

Test forms administered in 2009 as the MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 were previously administered in Idaho as the IELA. The structure of those forms, including the differences from previous

forms, is addressed in the following section. Table 1 shows the structure of MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 forms, presenting for each test form the grade cluster in which the form is administered and the numbers of items by item type in each language domain, as well as the number of points represented by those items. The items and points in the Comprehension column do not contribute to the Totals shown in the last two columns because all Comprehension items are part of the Listening or Reading tests.

All Listening and Reading items were eligible to be included on the Comprehension test. Those items that assessed a lower-level reading skill (e.g., letter identification, sound-symbol correspondence) were not included as comprehension. In addition, stand-alone vocabulary items were not included although vocabulary-in-context items were included. Two members of the Questar Assessment Development staff with extensive experience in the development of English proficiency assessments independently identified those items on the Listening and Reading subtests that assessed comprehension. On those occasions where they disagreed, a third member of the Assessment Development staff evaluated the item and broke the tie.

The more general characteristics of the MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 forms include:

- *Item overlap within and between grade clusters.* Over the last few administrations of the MontCAS ELP, there was a significant amount of overlap in the items that appeared on successive versions of a form (i.e., from one year to the next). Thus students who were tested in the same grade cluster (e.g., 3–5) would be tested with a significant percentage of the same items. For students who moved up a grade cluster, however, there would be little to no overlap in test content. This disparity was addressed in the forms administered in 2009 by designing them with a similar number of common items across alternate forms within a grade cluster (e.g., Forms C2v1 [administered in 2009] and C2v2 [available for administration in 2010] in grades 3–5) or across grade clusters (e.g., Forms C2v1 in grade cluster 3–5 and D2v2 in grade cluster 6–8).
- *Reading fluency.* A new reading fluency task was added in which students were timed as they read a short passage and performance was measured in terms of correct words per minute. Because this task requires individual administration, it was administered following the Speaking test.

Table 1. Structure and Content of MontCAS ELP 2009-2010 Test Forms

Form	Grade Cluster	Item Type	Listen		Speak		Read		Write		Comp		Total	
			Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts
A	K	MC	5	5	-	-	9	9	-	-	12	12	14	14
		SA	15	15	10	10	15	15	5	5	15	15	45	45
		ER	-	-	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10
		Total	20	20	13	20	24	24	22*	22*	27	27	79	86
B1	1-2	MC	15	15	-	-	15	15	-	-	24	24	30	30
		SA	-	-	9	9	-	-	13	13	-	-	22	22
		ER	-	-	2	6	-	-	1	2	-	-	3	8
		Total	15	15	11	15	15	15	14	15	24	24	55	60
		MC	20	20	-	-	16	16	-	-	35	35	36	36
		SA	-	-	12	12	-	-	10	10	-	-	22	22
		ER	-	-	3	8	1	4	3	10	-	-	7	22
		Total	20	20	15	20	17	20	13	20	35	35	65	80
C1	3-5	MC	20	20	-	-	16	16	6	6	33	33	42	42
		SA	-	-	14	14	-	-	6	6	-	-	20	20
		ER	-	-	2	6	1	4	3	8	-	-	6	18
		Total	20	20	16	20	17	20	15	20	33	33	68	80
		MC	25	25	-	-	21	21	7	7	46	46	53	53
		SA	-	-	13	13	-	-	4	4	-	-	17	17
		ER	-	-	4	12	1	4	5	14	-	-	10	30
		Total	25	25	17	25	22	25	16	25	46	46	80	100
D1	6-8	MC	20	20	-	-	16	16	9	9	33	33	45	45
		SA	-	-	12	12	-	-	3	3	-	-	15	15
		ER	-	-	3	8	1	4	3	8	-	-	7	20
		Total	20	20	15	20	17	20	15	20	33	33	67	80
		MC	25	25	-	-	24	24	10	10	49	49	59	59
		SA	-	-	13	13	-	-	3	3	-	-	16	16
		ER	-	-	4	12	1	4	5	14	-	-	10	30
		Total	25	25	17	25	25	28	18	27	49	49	85	105

Table 1. Structure and Content of MontCAS ELP 2009-2010 Test Forms (Continued)

Form	Grade Cluster	Item Type	Listen		Speak		Read		Write		Comp		Total	
			Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts	Itm	Pts
E1	9-12	MC	20	20	-	-	16	16	7	7	34	34	43	43
		SA	-	-	12	12	-	-	3	3	-	-	15	15
		ER	-	-	3	8	1	4	4	10	-	-	8	22
		Total	20	20	15	20	17	20	14	20	34	34	66	80
E2		MC	25	25	-	-	20	20	13	13	45	45	58	58
		SA	-	-	13	13	-	-	2	2	-	-	15	15
		ER	-	-	4	12	2	8	4	12	1	4	10	32
		Total	25	25	17	25	22	28	19	27	46	49	83	105

* A portion of the items on the Kindergarten Writing test are configured as a checklist completed by the test administrator.

MC - Multiple Choice; SA - Short Answer; ER - Extended Response

Table 2a compares the structure of MontCAS ELP 2009 forms to those administered in 2008 and to the forms administered in 2006 and 2007 (shown as 2006 since the structure was identical in those two years). In addition to the numbers of items and points for each form by modality, Table 2a shows the percent of points that each modality contributes to the total. In the development of the forms that were administered as the MontCAS ELP 2009–2010, there were several issues addressed. One of those issues was specific to Idaho, namely the alignment of the forms to Idaho English Language Development Standards. A second issue that was addressed was the appropriateness of the Level 1 and Level 2 forms to the abilities of students assessed with each. In particular, Level 2 forms were modified to more accurately assess higher levels of English proficiency. A third issue that was addressed was the uniformity of the forms across different levels and grade clusters. Examination of Table 2a shows that the MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 forms have more uniformity in test length in three respects: 1) across language domains within a grade cluster; 2) between Level 1 and Level 2 forms within each grade cluster; and 3) across grade clusters. In spite of the changes, including lengthening forms in most of the levels and grade clusters, the percent of the test contributed by each of the modalities changed very little, particularly from 2008 to 2009.

Table 2a. Configuration of MontCAS ELP Forms Administered in 2006, 2008, and 2009

Year	Form	Listening			Speaking			Reading			Writing			Comp		Total	
		Itms	Pts	%	Itms	Pts	%	Itms	Pts	%	Itms	Pts	%	Itms	Pts	Itms	Pts
2006	A	22	22	22	14	22	22	36	36	35	22*	22*	22	29	29	94	102
2008	A	15	15	19	10	15	19	27	27	34	22*	22*	28	18	18	74	79
2009	A	20	20	23	13	20	23	24	24	28	22*	22*	26	27	27	79	86
2006	B1	22	22	30	14	22	30	15	15	20	13	15	20	31	31	64	74
	B2	22	22	26	14	22	26	20	20	24	13	20	24	39	39	69	84
2008	B1	15	15	25	10	15	25	15	15	25	13	15	25	23	23	53	60
	B2	18	18	25	10	18	25	18	18	25	11	18	25	35	35	57	72
2009	B1	15	15	25	11	15	25	15	15	25	14	15	25	24	24	55	60
	B2	20	20	25	15	20	25	17	20	25	13	20	25	35	35	65	80
2006	C1	22	22	30	14	22	30	15	15	20	11	15	20	31	31	62	74
	C2	22	22	27	14	22	27	19	20	24	12	19	23	38	39	67	83
2008	C1	15	15	25	10	15	25	15	15	25	11	15	25	27	27	51	60
	C2	18	18	25	10	18	25	17	18	25	11	18	25	35	36	56	72
2009	C1	20	20	25	16	20	25	17	20	25	15	20	25	33	33	68	80
	C2	25	25	25	17	25	25	22	25	25	16	25	25	46	46	80	100
2006	D1	22	22	30	14	22	30	15	15	20	11	15	20	32	32	62	74
	D2	22	22	25	14	22	25	20	24	27	13	20	23	40	44	69	88
2008	D1	15	15	25	11	15	25	15	15	25	11	15	25	29	29	52	60
	D2	18	18	24	10	18	24	16	20	26	13	20	26	34	38	57	76
2009	D1	20	20	25	15	20	25	17	20	25	15	20	25	33	33	67	80
	D2	25	25	24	17	25	24	25	28	27	18	27	26	49	49	85	105
2006	E1	22	22	30	14	22	30	15	15	20	11	15	20	32	32	62	74
	E2	22	22	25	14	22	25	21	25	28	13	20	22	41	45	70	89
2008	E1	15	15	25	10	15	25	15	15	25	11	15	25	28	28	51	60
	E2	18	18	24	10	18	24	19	20	26	13	20	26	37	38	60	76
2009	E1	20	20	25	15	20	25	17	20	25	14	20	25	34	34	66	80
	E2	25	25	24	17	25	24	22	28	27	19	27	26	46	49	83	105

Table 2b shows for Level 2 forms by language domain the number (points) of MontCAS ELP 2009 items that appeared on MontCAS ELP 2008 forms. This table shows that there were some forms and language domains where very few items from the prior year appeared on the test. This information seems a bit at odds with what is presented later in Table 7 (page 24) which shows the common items that were used to link Level 2 forms administered in 2008 to those that were administered in 2009. The discrepancy arises because Table 2 refers to what were core (i.e., operational) items on the IELA forms. The linking items referred to in Table 7 include both core and field test items administered as part of the IELA in 2008. Since field test items were not administered on the MontCAS ELP, the field test items, although used for the equating, were not previously administered as part of the MontCAS ELP. Additional details are provided in Section 7 of this report.

Table 2b. Number of MontCAS ELP 2009 Items (Points) from MontCAS ELP 2008 Forms

Form	L	S	R	W
A	7	9	11	14
B2	3	3	5	5
C2	7	4	4	12
D2	14	5	1	6
E2	7	1	0	4

2.3 New Item Development. As part of a contract with the Idaho Office of the State Board of Education (IOSBE), a set of items were written to augment the items produced as part of the Mountain West Consortium development. The specifications for items to be developed were the outgrowth of an alignment study evaluating the extent to which the initial versions of the Idaho English Language Assessment (the test administered as the MontCAS ELP 2007–2008) aligned to Idaho’s revised English language development standards.

Item Development Staff. Items were written by experienced item writers contracted by Questar and were edited by Questar editors. All of the writers and editors had previous experience in developing items for English proficiency assessments. That experience includes development of items for Questar’s proprietary English proficiency assessment as well as items for an English proficiency assessment used by a large state department of education.

Item Development Training. Because items were developed by experienced item writers and editors, extensive training was not required. Writers were provided a set of materials including:

Item Writing Overview and Guidelines — A document that provided a general orientation to writing items for English language learners with checklists for both multiple-choice and constructed-response items.

Assessing Academic English — A document that provided a broad definition of the construct of academic English and a brief historical perspective on the evolution of the construct.

In addition to these general materials, each item writer was given a specific item writing assignment and a copy of the *Idaho Map of Standards for English Learners*.

Items, once submitted, were edited by Questar editors for faithfulness to the assignment, content, and style. At the completion of the editing cycle, the items were prepared for review by a panel of Idaho educators.

Item Content and Bias Reviews. All items were reviewed by a panel of Idaho educators for content and bias. Twenty-three Idaho educators, representing a variety of backgrounds (elementary and secondary school teachers, high school principals, university professors) participated in item review workshops in summer 2007. Each of the participants had content experience in ESL instruction, Reading, and/or Language Arts.

Each participant received a copy of all items (bound in a booklet), a checklist, documentation explaining what should be considered during the review, and a copy of the objectives/standards to which the items were written.

Items were assigned in blocks. Each educator reviewed items individually, considering the following three criteria:

- Item/standard match—Does the item address the standard, goal, and objective for which it was assigned?
- Appropriateness—Is the item clear and well written, is the point of view relevant to the test takers? Is it developmentally and academically appropriate as well as appropriate for English learners?
- Bias/sensitivity—Are the items free from any type of bias (gender, race, culture, economic situation, etc.) and do they show appropriate sensitivity to students from varied backgrounds?

Once all educators had finished reviewing a block of items, the committee discussed each item and made a recommendation. The goal of the discussion was to come to consensus on whether the item should be accepted as presented, modified before field testing, or rejected.

The item content review and bias/sensitivity review were completed by the same set of educators, yet at different times during the workshop. The bias review was completed after the item content review and new instructions were given. Consideration was also given, in advance, to recruiting individuals who would be appropriate for both types of review. IOSBE determined that the same committee members would be appropriate, due to the nature of the type of items and that most of the committee members were experts in teaching English language learners. Over half of the items were accepted as reviewed; most of the remainder were accepted with recommended modifications (usually wording changes or modifications to art); a handful of items (12 out of over 600 items) were rejected. Following the review meeting, items were edited in accordance with the recommendations of the panel and prepared for field testing.

Field Testing Items. Of the items that survived content and bias/sensitivity reviews, as many as could be accommodated were embedded in 2008 operational forms for field testing in Idaho. Within each grade cluster, there were multiple field test (FT) forms, each with the same set of operational items but a different set of FT items. There were four FT forms administered in Kindergarten. In each of the other grade clusters, there was one Level 1 form (e.g., C1) which did not include FT items, and six Level 2 forms (e.g., C2-1 through C2-6), which did include FT items. The forms in which the FT items were embedded were administered in Montana as the MontCAS ELP 2008–2009, but only those items that were operational on the Idaho forms appeared on the MontCAS ELP forms. Thus, no field test items were embedded in the forms during administration in Montana.

Data Review. After FT items were scored, the following item statistics were calculated:

- Item mean — average score for the item over students.
- Adjusted item mean — item mean divided by the number of possible points.
- Point-biserial (item-total) correlation — correlation of the item to the total test score (based on operational items).
- Response distribution (distracter analysis) — the number and percent of students choosing each alternative on multiple-choice items.
- Score point distribution — the number and percent of students receiving each score point on open-ended items.

A data review meeting was convened on July 29–31, 2008 and FT items were reviewed by a panel of 14 Idaho educators. Panelists came from a variety of backgrounds (teachers, principals, district administrators, etc.) and most had ELL experience. Following a presentation on the data that they would be reviewing and the deliberation process, panelists were presented with data booklets and item cards. Of the 542 items that were reviewed, 474 or approximately 87% were approved. Items that were approved by the Item Data Review Panel were eligible for inclusion in the spring 2009 IELA test forms.

2.4 Alignment of the MontCAS ELP. An alignment study of the MontCAS ELP to the Montana English Language Proficiency Standards has not yet been completed. In the development of the Mountain West Consortium Test (Matthews, 2007), the member states of the consortium developed a set of common English language development (ELD) standards. The MWAC ELD standards were used to guide item development for the Mountain West Test.

3. MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 Administration

3.1 Testing Window. The testing window for MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 was October 19 through November 20, 2009. All test materials were to be returned to Questar by December 11, 2009.

3.2 Assessment Training. To prepare systems for the administration of the Fall 2009 MontCAS ELP, a Training PowerPoint Presentation was created to cover three main areas: What's New, Test Administration, and Post-Test Instructions. A Training CD with this presentation was shipped to all systems with a known LEP population on September 4, 2009 and a PDF version of the presentation (showing each slide and the notes section) was posted to the Office of Public Instruction website (http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#p7GPc1_11). A Training Handout, which showed each slide from the Training Presentation, was also provided. A PDF of the General Instructions from the *Test Administrator Manuals* was also posted on the OPI website to allow test coordinators a chance to begin preparing before assessment materials arrived.

Each System Test Coordinator was encouraged to read through these presentations prior to administration and to consider using the PowerPoint presentation to train Test Administrators.

To prepare for testing, Test Administrators were instructed (in the *Test Administrator Manual*) to:

- read the manual completely;
- ensure that they had adequate materials for all students who would be tested;
- notify students in advance of testing;
- print students' first and last names on the answer document; and
- secure a CD player (or computer with CD-ROM drive, sound card and speakers) for administering the Listening test, and check the sound quality.

3.3 Test Administrator Scripts. Specific step-by-step instructions and script were provided for each test form in a *Test Administrator Manual* specific to that particular form. Scoring guides

were provided for all oral constructed-responses. Such items occurred throughout the Kindergarten form, but only in the Speaking test at all other grade spans. Where appropriate, examples of full-credit and partial-credit responses were provided.

3.4 Listening Test Administration. The Listening test was administered with a CD recording. This ensured that all students heard the questions in the same voice and at the same pace. The recording included a tone after each question signaling the Test Administrator to pause the CD while students responded. A printed Listening Script for each form was available to any school that requested it.

3.5 Setting for the Test. For the individually administered subtests, Test Administrators were advised as follows: “The test setting should be a quiet one-to-one environment. The testing should take place where other students cannot hear or see the testing materials. The Test Administrator should sit close enough to the student to point to questions and illustrations in the student’s test booklet during test administration.”

For the group-administered subtests, Test Administrators were advised as follows: “The test setting for the group-administered sections is a quiet classroom. The students should have in front of them only their test booklet, answer document, and a No. 2 pencil.”

3.6 Timing. The MontCAS ELP is an untimed test and therefore Test Administrators were advised to allow students as much time as they needed to finish any given subtest.

3.7 Prompting and Repeating Test Information. The following rules regarding prompting or repeating information were printed in all *Test Administrator Manuals*:

Prompting is the provision of additional information to students during administration of the assessment. Prompting includes:

- elaborating on questions,
- clarifying information provided in reading selections or any test question,
- pointing out specific information in the questions or graphics,
- providing cues that might normally be part of an instructional strategy, and/or
- suggesting strategies that a student may use to arrive at a correct response.

In general, prompting is **not** allowed in this test because it may give an unfair advantage to some students. However, in specific situations where partial or unclear responses are given, the following general prompts are appropriate.

To clarify the student’s response, the Test Administrator may say,

I don’t understand what you said.

Can you tell me more?

If the student answers in another language, the Test Administrator may say,

Can you say that in English?

The Test Administrator may repeat directions, if necessary, but must do so before the child begins a response.

If there is a distraction or interruption, the selection or question may be repeated.

If a student asks for a question to be repeated, the Test Administrator may repeat the question only once.

If the student still does not understand what is being asked, the Test Administrator should score that question as though the student gave no response (*BL*).

The Test Administrator must not modify directions in any way. To do so would provide an unfair advantage to one student or a group of students over others.

The Test Administrator should allow approximately 15 seconds of wait time for a student to begin a response to a question. This gives the student time to gather his or her thoughts and to think carefully before responding in English. If a student has not responded after 15 seconds, the Test Administrator should move on to the next item or task and score the item as “no response” (*BL*).

3.8 Testing Absentees. Test Administrators were advised to make every effort to see that all LEP students in the school were administered all sections of the MontCAS ELP. If a student was absent for a particular testing session, a make-up test was to be scheduled, as long as it was within the testing window.

3.9 Testing Accommodations. For visually impaired students, the MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 was available (by special order) in Braille and in Large-Print. No Braille forms were ordered before the August 21, 2009 deadline. There was one order for the C1 Large Print test booklet, two orders for the C2 Large Print test booklets and one order for the D2 Large Print test booklet.

Detailed guidelines for Standard and Nonstandard Accommodations were provided in each *Test Administrator Manual*. In the “Guidelines for Standard and Nonstandard Test Accommodations” section, it was noted that some of the accommodations were crossed out on the listing and NA was coded in the accommodations section of answer documents. These crossed-out accommodations were not appropriate for MontCAS ELP students. The guidelines included the statement:

The fact that the MontCAS ELP is an untimed test and that there is considerable graphic support should help with increased comprehension for LEP students, including LEP students with special needs. However, in some cases it may be necessary to provide specific accommodations.

Test Administrators were instructed to only bubble accommodations IF the accommodation was made for a student with special needs. Standard accommodations for the MontCAS ELP were available to students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plans and to “all students if the accommodation(s) had been part of the student’s classroom routine three months prior to testing.” Standard accommodations were to be “determined on an individual basis, student by student, rather than for groups of students.” Nonstandard accommodations were available only for a student with IEP/504 plans and caution was advised for teams in considering whether a student required a nonstandard accommodation.

Test Administrators were warned that such accommodations should be used only when absolutely necessary. If a student was tested with accommodations, the Test Administrator was instructed to mark the appropriate bubble (Box 7) on the answer sheet.

Certain accommodations would necessarily invalidate test scores. The following list of non-allowable accommodations was provided in the Training PowerPoint presentation and Training Handouts:

The following accommodations are NOT allowed:

- Test administration in a language other than English.
- Translation of the assessment into another language.
- Translation of the assessment into sign language.
- Use of dictionaries or other reference aids. This includes both monolingual and bilingual dictionaries.
- Accepting responses in a language other than English.

(If students respond in their native language, the Test Administrator may ask them if they can “say that in English.” If they cannot, the response counts as 0.)

The use of any of the non-allowable accommodations will invalidate test scores.

4. MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 Test Security

System Test Coordinators were instructed to “communicate the importance of maintaining test security” before, between, and after testing sessions. Additionally, in the *Test Administrator Manuals*, it stated that “No part of any test booklet or *Test Administrator Manual* (except where expressly stated) may be reproduced or transmitted in any fashion. At the conclusion of the test administration, all test materials (both used and unused) must be accounted for and returned to the System Test Coordinator, who will return all materials to Questar Assessment, Inc.”

4.1 Bar-Coding and Return of Secure Materials. All secure materials (test booklets, answer documents (except Form A answer document), prompt books, Listening test CDs, and *Test Administrator Manuals*) were individually bar-coded. These secure test materials were scanned upon packing and distributing to systems and then scanned again upon return to Questar to account for materials. Test Coordinators were instructed to return all test materials—used and unused—to Questar. A detailed description of the check-in of secure materials is included in the *2006–2007 Technical Report*.

4.2 Storage and Shredding of Secure Materials. After scoring, all used test booklets and answer documents were stored in Questar’s secure warehouse facility in Apple Valley, Minnesota. Used answer documents are stored according to their processing for quick retrieval, if necessary. Access to these facilities is limited to Questar staff. Used student answer documents and unused and non-scannable secure materials must be stored for 180 days, after which Questar requests written permission from the State Manager to recycle the materials using a secure method of destruction. Questar received written permission from the Montana Office of Instruction in July 2010 to destroy the 2009–2010 materials, except for file copies.

5. MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 Scoring and Reporting

5.1 Scoring of Multiple-Choice Items. Multiple choice items (which are bubbled on the student test booklet or answer document) were scored electronically. One (1) point was given for the correct answer bubbled. Zero (0) points were given for incorrect answer bubbled or multiple bubbles marked. If no item was bubbled (an omit), the response was scored as a “blank”.

5.2 Writing Checklist. The Writing raw score for (Kindergarten level) Form A was calculated as follows: 1 point was allocated for each skill on the Writing Checklist that the student “does most of the time” or of which they “demonstrate mastery.” Thus, the Writing Checklist generated a maximum raw score of 22 points.

5.3 Oral Reading Items. Oral reading items were included on the B2, C1, C2, D1, D2, E1, and E2 forms. This portion of Reading test was administered individually following completion of the Speaking test. Students were instructed to read from a grade-appropriate passage for one minute. Test Administrators marked and entered number of words read and the number of errors. In the course of scoring tests, the number of errors was subtracted from the number of words read to calculate the Correct Words per Minute (CWPM). Points for the item were assigned on the basis of obtained CWPM as shown in the table that follows.

Table 3. Points Awarded for CWPM Ranges

Test Form	0	1	2	3	4
B	0–9	10–22	23–41	42–71	72 & above
C	0–53	54–75	76–100	101–126	127 & above
D	0–79	80–103	104–121	122–140	141 & above
E	0–79	80–103	104–121	122–140	141 & above

5.4 Scoring of Constructed-Response Items. The MontCAS ELP includes constructed-response (CR) items (separated into short answer [SA] and extended response [ER] in Table 1 on page 5) in Speaking and Writing as well as a few CR items in Reading. Speaking CR items were scored by the Test Administrator at the time of test administration. Scoring guides and examples of full and partial-credit items were included as part of the *Test Administrator Manual*. Speaking responses were not recorded and no attempts were made to assess the validity or reliability of the rating of Speaking items.

Writing and Reading constructed-response items were scored at the Questar scoring center using a 1-point, 2-point, or 4-point scale. The table that follows shows the grade spans, forms, levels, and domains where there are constructed-response items. A second, independent read was provided for 20% of the Level 2 constructed-response items. Level 1 constructed-response items were rated by the Questar Scoring Directors without a rescore due to the low quantities and due to the use of non-scannable test booklets/answer documents with Level 1 forms.

Table 4. Constructed-Response Items

CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ITEMS		
Grade Span	Forms	Level and Domain
1–2	Form B	Level 1 & Level 2 Writing
3–5, 6–8, 9–12	Forms C, D, E	Level 1 & Level 2 Writing; Level 2 Reading

Training Materials. A *Scoring Manual for Open-Ended Reading/Writing Responses* was used in the training of readers for scoring constructed-response items. A separate scoring manual was created for each grade span (B, C, D, and E). Questar’s content specialists reviewed the scoring guides and rubrics for the constructed-response items, noted where there were weaknesses (if any) in the guides, and identified types of responses that will likely be seen in the operational responses. When necessary, sample responses were added to various items and score points to present a more complete scoring guide (which consists of background information, the scoring rubrics, and annotated anchor responses) used to train readers. Practice sets were created and used for training readers on writing and reading items of the following types: spelling, complete sentences, descriptive sentences, interrogative sentences, multiple sentences, and holistic four-point writing rubric.

Staffing. The scoring team consisted of one Scoring Director, three team leaders, and twenty-two readers. The Scoring Director managed scoring of reading and writing items. Team leaders were trained prior to the onset of the performance scoring and assisted readers with item specific questions during training and scoring. All readers scored the entire project (reading and writing items). None of the readers was released due to poor performance during training or subsequent scoring. Readers were trained on each item by grade span prior to scoring any of the items in that grade span. Following the group training, the readers completed paired reads on individual items. As the scoring proceeded, Reader Reliability Statistics and Scorepoint Distribution Statistics were monitored for each reader on a daily basis.

Reader Reliability. The constructed-response items that were scored by two readers provide information on reader reliability. Data relevant to this issue are summarized in Table 5. This table shows, for each Level 2 form for each item or set of items, the maximum point value of the item(s) (Pts), the number of student papers read twice (N), the percent of items on which the readers agreed exactly (% Exact), and the percent of items on which reader agreement was within +/1 one score point (% Ex+Adj). All items, even those with four-point maximum values, were at or near 100% exact + adjacent agreement.

Table 5. Summary of Reader Reliability for MontCAS ELP Constructed-Response Items

Form	Domain	Item(s)	Pts	N	% Exact	% Ex + Adj
B2	W	1	1	262	99	100
		2	1	262	99	100
		3	1	262	98	100
		4	1	262	90	100
		5	1	262	98	100
		6	1	262	97	100
		7	1	262	91	100
		8	1	262	92	100
		9	1	262	92	100
		10	1	262	98	100
		11	2	262	85	100
		12	2	262	86	100
		13	2	262	80	100
		14	4	262	83	100
C2	W	1	1	438	99	100
		2	1	438	96	100
		10	1	438	98	100
		11	1	438	91	100
		12	2	438	88	100
		13	2	438	92	100
		14	2	438	90	100
		15	4	438	86	100
		16	4	438	84	100
D2	W	1	1	240	99	100
		2	1	240	100	100
		13	1	240	99	100
		14	2	240	96	100
		15	2	240	84	100
		16	2	240	89	100
		17	4	240	89	100
		18	4	240	82	100
E2	W	1	1	432	99	100
		2	1	432	97	100
		16	2	432	88	100
		17	2	432	90	100
		18	4	432	78	100
		19	4	432	81	100
	R	21	4	432	84	100

Handscoring Issues. A recurring issue on the MontCAS ELP involves students writing constructed-responses outside of a designated response area on their answer documents. These item mismatches were observed on the 2006–2007, 2007–2008, and 2008–2009 administrations of the MontCAS ELP and were seen once again during the scoring of constructed-response items on the 2009–2010 MontCAS ELP. Following each of the previous instances of this issue, it was addressed in the training for Test Administrators. In December 2008, OPI and Questar reviewed the issue of item mismatch in the context of a discussion of the constructed-response scoring process and agreed on rules for handling the handscoring of these occurrences of mismatch in future administrations. The rules are outlined below:

- If there was demonstrated intent on the answer document to indicate that a response had been misplaced, handscoring would score the response for the misplaced item. Demonstrated intent was defined as instances where (1) the student/teacher wrote in the item number next to the written response, or (2) student/teacher noted that the item(s) was written in the wrong spot(s).
- If there was no demonstrated intent, the misplaced response was considered off-topic and would be scored “0.”
- If there were two responses in the designated area for a single item and no demonstrated intent, the response that matched the prompt would be scored. If the next response was blank and no intent was communicated, that item was scored as a BL (blank).

For the 2009–2010 administration, a decision was made to change some design elements on the answer documents to try to make more clear where students should record their responses. These changes included:

- Printing item numbers in boldface within the top-left of the response box.
- Providing additional space between response boxes, if possible.
- At top of response box, adding the message “Answer question <number> here.”
- At bottom of page, where applicable, changing “Turn page to continue” to “Turn page to answer next question.”
- At the beginning of the instructions in the *Test Administrator Manual*, adding the instruction, “Write only one response in each response box.”

During the 2009–2010 handscoring, there were twelve instances of item mismatches where the teacher or student included a note alerting the reader to the mismatch (in 2008–2009, there were five). Questar readers were then able to apply ScorePoint’s item mismatch feature and score the response for the misplaced item. There were other instances of item mismatch where there was no demonstrated intent by the student or Test Administrator. Those instances were handled in the following ways in accordance with the rules outlined above:

- *Two responses written on one page (with no note alerting to a mismatch).* Readers scored the response that matched the item corresponding to that page and did not count the “extra” writing against the student’s score.
- *Items written completely on wrong page (with no note alerting to a mismatch).* Readers scored a “0” for off topic if it was off topic.
- *Blank pages.* Readers scored a “BL” for Blank.

5.5 Reporting. Student performance in each of the language domains (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing) and Comprehension was reported in terms of raw score, scaled score, and proficiency levels. Student performance was also reported on the overall (Total MontCAS ELP) test in terms of raw score, scaled score, and proficiency level. In February 2007, a panel of Montana educators met to set standards for the MontCAS ELP in the form of cut scores for each proficiency level by grade. A detailed description of standard setting procedures is included in the *2006–2007 Technical Report*. The reported scores were defined in the *2009–2010 MontCAS ELP Assessment Score Reports Interpretation Guide*. A copy of that guide is included as **Appendix B**.

Incomplete Testing. Students were required to take all four language domain tests. If a student did not take one or more of the domain tests, the reports showed dashes in place of scores for that domain. The reported Total MontCAS ELP score was based on the domain tests for which there are scores. Thus, if a student failed to take the Speaking Test for whatever reason, the Total MontCAS ELP score was based on a raw score of zero in Speaking. The reported Comprehension scores—which were based on a subset of Listening and Reading scores—was affected in the same way if the student failed to take either the Listening or Reading Test.

Reports Shipment. MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 results packages were shipped to systems on February 19, 2010. The system and each of its schools had separate results packets. The reports that were in each packet are listed below. In addition, copies (1 copy for each school and system) of the *2009–2010 MontCAS ELP Assessment Score Reports Interpretation Guide* (SRIG) were included in the shipment. The SRIG included a sample of each report type with information for understanding the report and information for using the MontCAS ELP results. The SRIG was also posted on the OPI website, http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/#p7GPc1_11.

MontCAS ELP System Packet — 2009–2010

- Contents Sheet
- System Summary Reports by grade
- System Growth Reports by grade
- Copy of each School Summary Report
- Copy of each School Roster

MontCAS ELP School — 2009–2010

- Contents Sheet
- School Summary Reports by grade
- School Rosters
- Individual Student Reports
- Student Labels
- Parent Reports

Note that the System Growth Report showed growth within the system for those students who were assessed with the MontCAS ELP in 2008–2009 and 2009–2010 (confirmed by a State ID # match). Growth Reports were provided only when there were 10 or more students per report. If there were fewer than 10 students, system personnel were instructed to examine the student's Individual Student Reports to determine growth.

6. MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 Item Analyses

This section provides classical item-level statistics for all items administered on MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 forms. The p-value is presented as an index of item difficulty and the point-biserial correlation is presented as an index of item discrimination.

P-Values. For multiple-choice items, the p-value statistic is defined as the proportion of students that answer an item correctly. For constructed-response items, the p-value is reported as the average number of points out of the maximum number of possible points for an item. P-values range from zero to one (1.0). A high p-value means that an item is easy; a low p-value means that an item is difficult. Generally, it is desirable for tests to include items that span a range of difficulty.

Point-biserial correlations. The point-biserial correlation for each item is an index of the association between the item score and the total-test score. It shows how well the item discriminates between low-ability and high-ability students, where ability is inferred from the overall test score. Point-biserial correlation coefficients range between -1.0 and +1.0. High positive values indicate that a high-ability student is more likely (than a student with lower

ability) to answer an item correctly and low negative values indicate that a low-ability student is more likely (than a student with higher ability) to answer an item correctly.

Table 6 shows the average p-value and range and median point-biserial correlation coefficients and range by language domain and test form. These data are only shown for Level 2 forms because the numbers of Level 1 forms administered were low even when aggregated across grades within a grade span. As in previous administrations of the MontCAS ELP, there were differences in both range and average p-values across language domains. The average p-values in Reading and Writing remain lower than the averages in Listening and Speaking, especially so in Writing.

Table 6. Summary of MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 Item Difficulty and Discrimination by Grade Span and Language Domain

Grade Span	Form	Domain	N	Item p-value		Point Biserial	
				Avg	Range	Med	Range
K	A	L	436	.75	.50 - .94	.47	.22 - .62
		S	436	.78	.44 - .96	.47	.33 - .65
		R	436	.39	.06 - .73	.55	.34 - .72
		W	436	.30	.05 - .75	.54	.30 - .70
1-2	B2	L	760	.73	.49 - .97	.34	.28 - .42
		S	760	.78	.59 - .94	.54	.46 - .66
		R	760	.66	.41 - .93	.38	.22 - .59
		W	760	.52	.29 - .83	.53	.30 - .70
3-5	C2	L	979	.72	.40 - .93	.36	.13 - .52
		S	979	.79	.44 - .94	.52	.40 - .72
		R	979	.64	.38 - .93	.39	.24 - .51
		W	979	.66	.27 - .91	.45	.23 - .63
6-8	D2	L	800	.72	.50 - .92	.37	.26 - .45
		S	800	.83	.61 - .98	.45	.37 - .67
		R	800	.72	.37 - .91	.37	.26 - .53
		W	800	.70	.35 - .94	.38	.23 - .63
9-12	E2	L	856	.76	.48 - .95	.43	.27 - .54
		S	856	.85	.60 - .96	.65	.36 - .72
		R	856	.75	.27 - .96	.39	.23 - .50
		W	856	.69	.35 - .92	.43	.25 - .56

Tables with item difficulty and discrimination data by item are included as **Appendix A**. Analyses of test level data, including raw score descriptive statistics and test reliability measures, are reported in Table 8 (page 30).

7. Scaling and Equating of the MontCAS ELP

Initial scaling and equating of the 2009–2010 MontCAS ELP forms were completed on those forms when they were administered in Spring 2009 as the Idaho English Language Proficiency Assessment. The decision was made in 2006 to use the Idaho data for item calibration, scaling and equating because the population to whom the forms were administered in Idaho was larger than the population to whom the test was administered in Montana. Although the LEP populations in Idaho and Montana are significantly different (approximately 85% of LEP students in Idaho are of Hispanic origin, whereas approximately 85% of LEP students in Montana are of American Indian origin), concerns about the small size of the sample in Montana outweighed concerns about differences in the student population. A brief summary of the equating procedures follows.

The MontCAS ELP 2009 test forms, following their administration in Idaho as the IELA 2009, were equated to MontCAS ELP 2008 forms, administered as the IELA 2008, so that scores could be reported on the same score scale. Prior to equating 2009 to 2008 forms, however, 2009 items in each grade cluster test form were calibrated using the Rasch Partial Credit Model (PCM), as implemented in WINSTEPS, version 3.67.0. This model is appropriate for short-answer and constructed-response items on the Speaking and Writing subtests as well as multiple-choice items administered across the language domains. As a first step, items on 2009 Forms A, B2, C2, D2, and E2 were calibrated, with items on each grade-cluster form calibrated independently. Items on 2009 Level 1 forms — B1, C1, D1, and E1 — were then calibrated by fixing the item parameters for those items that are common between the two levels of each grade cluster (i.e., Forms C1 and C2) to the same values as the Level 2 calibration for those items. This calibration procedure equated Forms B1, C1, D1, and E1 to Forms B2, C2, D2, and E2, respectively, ensuring that, within each grade cluster, scores on the Level 1 and Level 2 forms are reported on the same scale.

Following the item calibration, the forms that were administered as the MontCAS ELP 2009 were equated to those administered in 2008 using a common item or anchor test design. As in previous years, the equating took place following administration of the IELA test forms in Idaho. Anchor items, those items that appeared in identical format in both the Spring 2008 IELA forms and in the Spring 2009 IELA forms, were embedded in Forms A, B2, C2, D2, and E2. Unlike previous years, however, some of the anchor items were items that had been field tested in Idaho in 2008. The numbers of common items on the 2008 and 2009 IELA forms by form and

language domain are shown in Table 7. As indicated previously, these totals differ from the summary of common MontCAS ELP items shown in Table 2b. The discrepancy arises because a significant portion of the anchor items represented in Table 7 were field test items in the 2008 IELA administration. Those items did not appear on the 2008 MontCAS ELP because only core (operational) items from the IELA appeared on the corresponding MontCAS ELP forms and thus are not included in Table 2b (page 8). For each language domain and the Total MontCAS ELP, Table 7 shows in the “B” column the number of points represented by items in common between the 2008 and 2009 IELA forms. In the course of the equating, detailed in a subsequent section, some of the items represented in the “B” column were not used as linking items. Whereas all of the items remained on the test, only those shown in the “A” column were used as equating items. The procedure used to determine whether to use a common item in the equating is detailed in the following paragraph.

Table 7. Anchor Item Points by Form and Modality

Form	Listening		Speaking		Reading		Writing		Total	
	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A
A	7	5	9	9	9	9	10	10	35	33
B2	10	9	9	7	10	10	8	4	37	30
C2	12	12	15	13	13	13	16	10	56	48
D2	11	11	11	9	8	7	10	4	40	31
E2	12	12	10	7	12	11	12	12	46	42

Prior to equating 2009 to 2008 IELA forms, each anchor item was evaluated for stability. As part of that evaluation, the calibrated difficulty (step value) of each anchor item in the current year (2009) was plotted against the calibrated difficulty of that item in the prior year (2008). Ideally, these plots should fall on a 45-degree line, indicating that calibrated values are stable from year to year. Those points that fall quite far from the line are referred to as outliers. For the anchor items in each of the five forms, the 2009 step values were plotted against the 2008 step values and these plots are shown in Figures 1–5. The numbers of plotted points for Forms A, B2, C2, D2, and E2 are 35, 37, 56, 40, and 46, respectively. Generally, the step values fell along this 45-degree line as the model requires. Of course, not all points are on or right next to the line due to error that is inherent in all measurement, and occasionally, a point is quite far from the line. Across the five forms, there were only a few outliers and these outliers were removed from the equating. Once the items were initially equated, a difference was calculated between the two step values (2008 step value – 2009 step value). Outliers were defined as items with an absolute difference of 0.60 logits or greater. The items that were not included as part of the equating were still scored and used as operational items on their respective forms, but those items were not

included in the calculations to determine final equating constants. (Note that when a constructed-response item with multiple score points had at least one outlier point, the entire item was removed from the equating.) After deleting items with outlier values, the number of step values for the forms as listed previously is 33, 30, 48, 31, and 42.

In Figures 1 through 5, two correlation coefficients (r) are given in the upper right-hand corner of each plot: one for all anchor items and the other for the final anchor items with outliers removed.

Figures 1–5. Step Values of Anchor Items for 2008 and 2009 IELA Forms

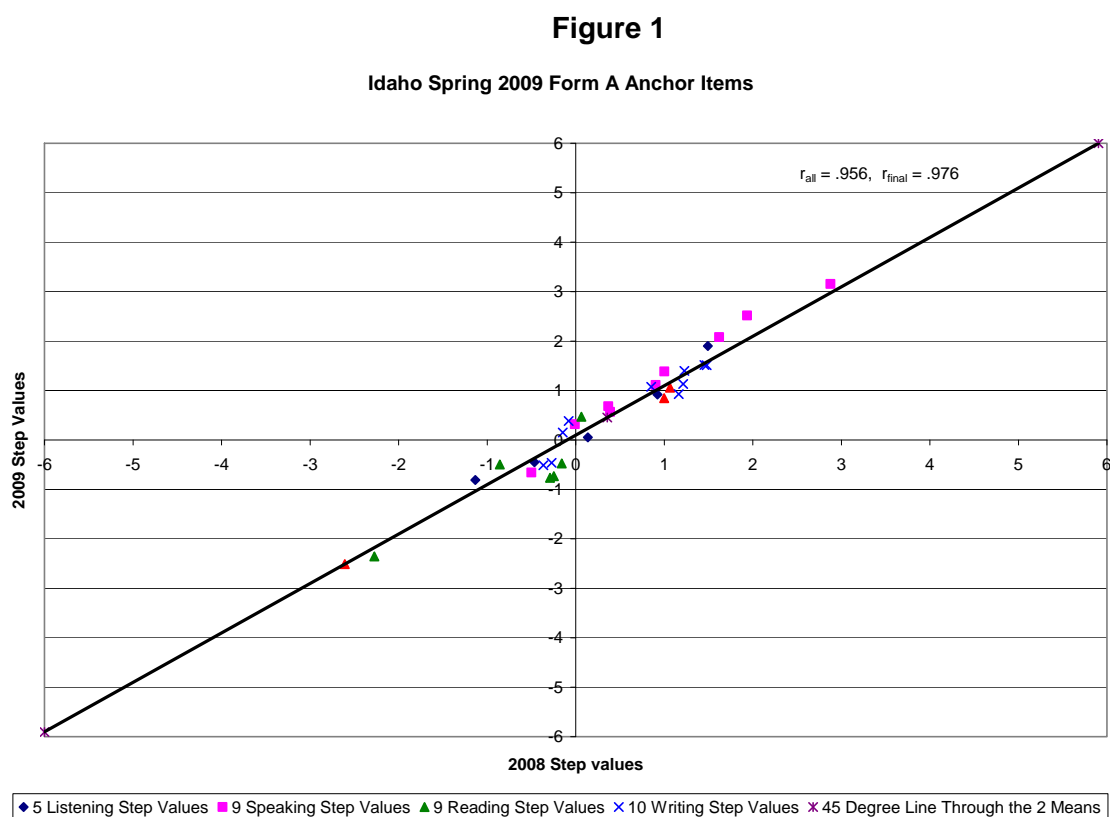


Figure 2

Idaho Spring 2009 Form B2 Anchor Items

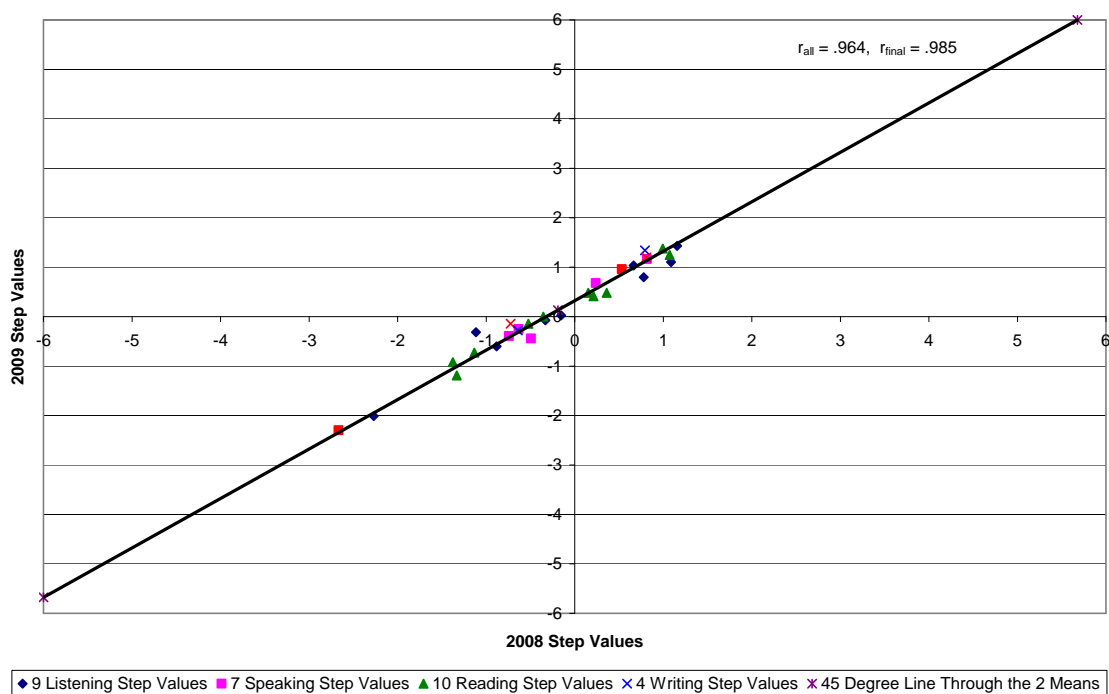


Figure 3

Idaho Spring 2009 Form C2 Anchor Items

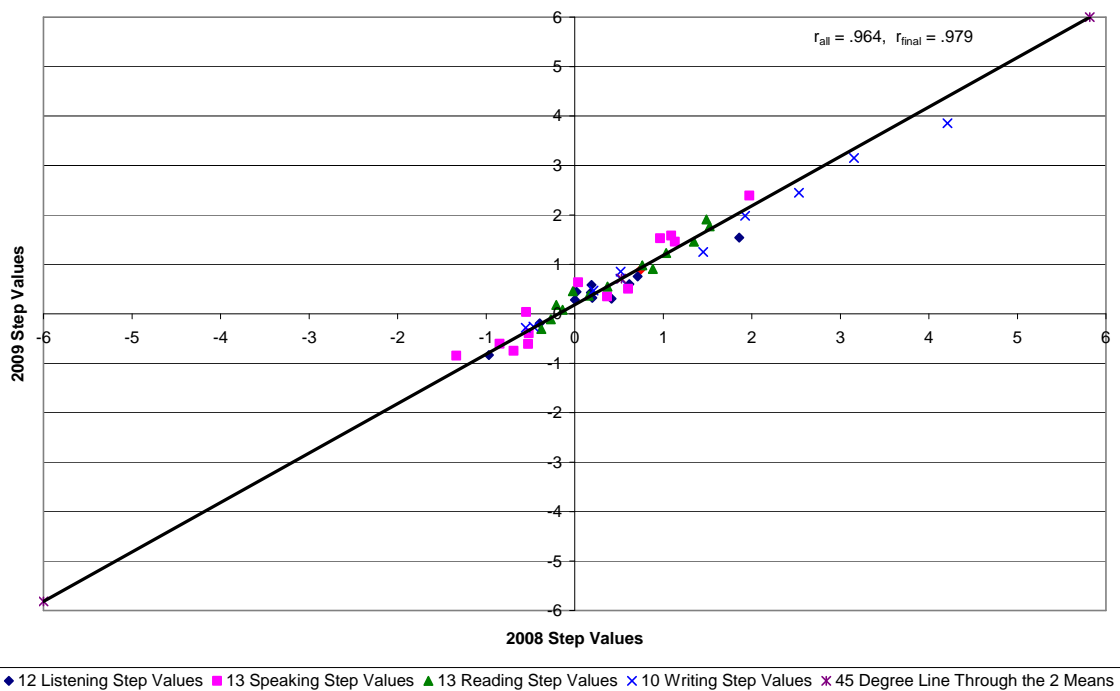


Figure 4

Idaho Spring 2009 Form D2 Anchor Items

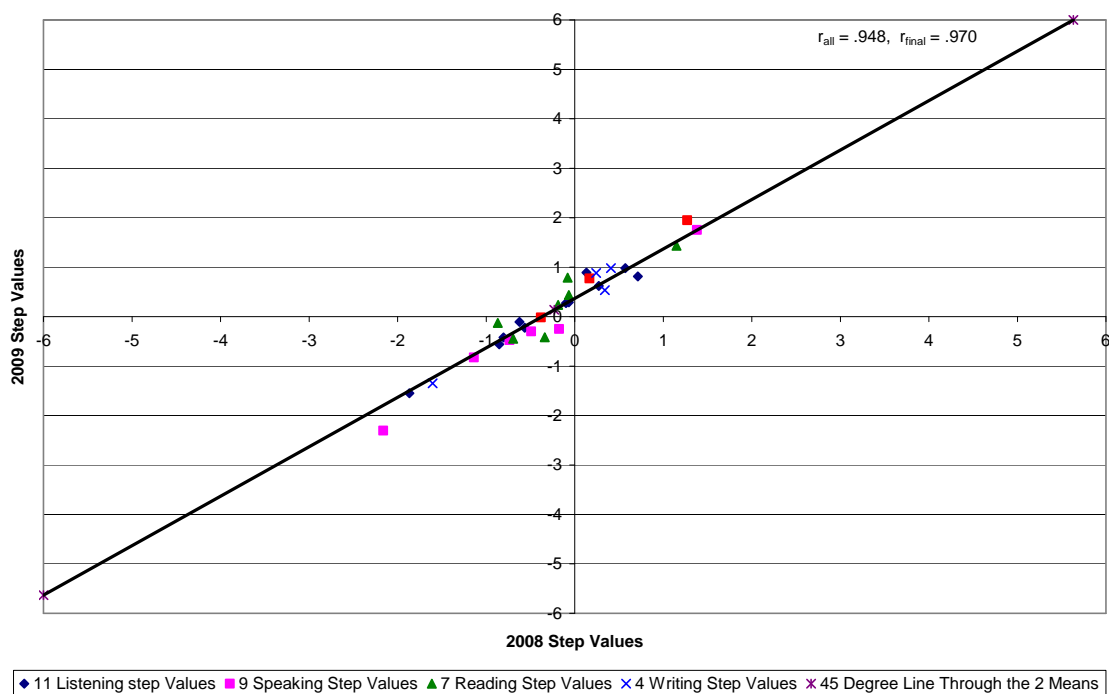
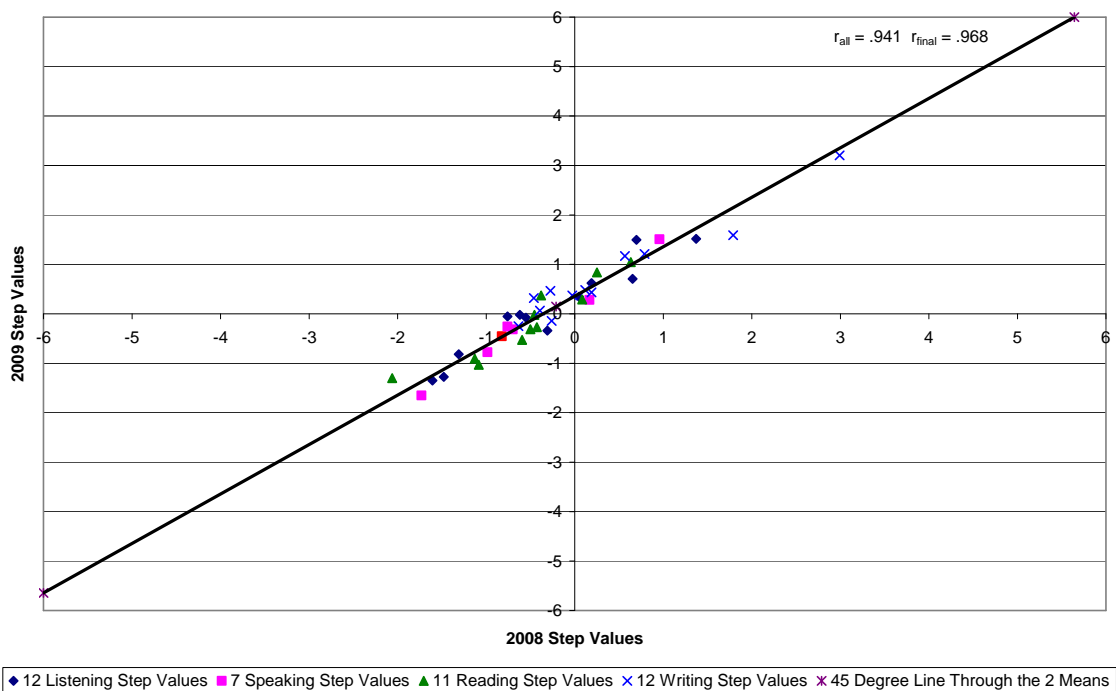


Figure 5

Idaho Spring 2009 Form E2 Anchor Items



With the outliers removed, the final anchor items were used to develop a linking constant for each form that places the item step values from the 2009 form on the same Rasch logit scale as the 2008 form. The linking constant was computed as the difference between the average step value from the 2008 form's WINSTEPS calibration, minus the average step value from the 2009 form's WINSTEPS calibration. Adding this linking constant to the step values for each of the items in the 2009 form places all of the 2009 form's step values (and log ability estimates) on the same Rasch logit scale as the 2008 form. A separate linking constant was calculated for each grade cluster and applied. This constant was applied to items on all forms including both the Level 1 and Level 2 forms.

Once all items from the 2007, 2008, and 2009 forms were placed on the same logit difficulty scale established in 2006, scaled scores were computed for the 2009 forms. A linear transformation that was developed in the first year for each grade cluster form and test was applied to the equated Rasch log ability scale for the 2009 grade cluster form to yield equated scaled scores. The same cut scores for each proficiency level and grade established in the 2007 MontCAS ELP standards setting were applied.

8. Reliability of the MontCAS ELP

Data bearing on the reliability of MontCAS ELP 2008–2009 test forms are shown in the panels of Table 8. This table shows for each form and each language domain (including comprehension and the total test): the number of students (N) who were administered the form, coefficient Alpha (a measure of internal-consistency reliability), the maximum raw score attainable, and the mean, standard deviation, and standard error of measurement (SEM) in both raw score and scaled score units. Number of students represents the number for whom there was a valid test score and may vary across language domains in a grade to the extent that there were students who did not attempt one or more of the language domain tests. There is a total score for each student regardless of whether or not all language domain tests were attempted. Data are aggregated by grade for Level 2 forms but by grade span for Level 1 forms due to the small numbers of students administered the Level 1 forms.

As reported for previous administrations of the MontCAS ELP, there is some variability in the alphas over tests and grades. However, there are only four low values ($\alpha < 0.70$) across the 85 language domains and comprehension. Two of these low values are for Level 1 tests with small Ns and the other two for Level 2 tests with alphas nearly equal to .70 (.68 and .69). For the total test, the level at which classification decisions are made, reliability is consistently high ($\alpha > 0.80$) across forms and grade levels. In fact, all the total test alphas are at least .89 with most in the low .90s.

Table 8. Reliability, Raw Score and Scaled Score Descriptive Statistics for MontCAS ELP 2009–2010 Test Forms by Grade

Grade K				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
A	Listening	433	0.83	20	15.0	4.1	1.67	113.9	22.6	9.21
	Speaking	435	0.79	20	13.9	4.2	1.93	113.3	20.7	9.56
	Reading	436	0.91	24	9.3	6.3	1.84	76.9	31.1	9.08
	Writing	435	0.90	22	6.5	5.0	1.58	72.0	25.9	8.25
	Comprehen	433	0.83	27	16.8	4.9	2.01	105.4	16.4	6.75
	Total	436	0.94	86	44.5	15.3	3.74	389.3	29.4	7.20

Grades 1-2				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
B1	Listening	102	0.68	15	11.0	2.6	1.48	88.7	17.6	9.93
	Speaking	103	0.76	15	9.2	3.2	1.54	94.0	17.6	8.59
	Reading	104	0.66	15	9.5	2.8	1.65	82.5	16.9	9.79
	Writing	104	0.87	15	8.2	4.1	1.46	85.2	24.5	8.74
	Comprehen	104	0.78	24	15.5	4.3	2.04	84.2	15.9	7.54
	Total	104	0.89	60	37.7	9.7	3.23	363.7	36.3	12.06

Grade 1				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
B2	Listening	347	0.71	20	13.1	3.4	1.84	99.5	15.3	8.26
	Speaking	346	0.82	20	13.9	4.3	1.85	111.2	19.3	8.21
	Reading	349	0.68	20	9.9	3.5	1.99	94.2	13.0	7.36
	Writing	347	0.81	20	6.3	4.0	1.72	85.3	17.8	7.73
	Comprehen	348	0.77	35	21.3	5.3	2.56	98.0	12.2	5.86
	Total	350	0.89	80	42.8	11.6	3.86	391.6	30.3	10.10

Grade 2				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
B2	Listening	410	0.70	20	16.1	2.8	1.56	114.8	17.3	9.55
	Speaking	394	0.74	20	16.2	3.4	1.75	122.0	18.7	9.50
	Reading	410	0.71	20	14.7	3.6	1.93	113.1	16.5	8.91
	Writing	409	0.82	20	12.0	4.3	1.83	107.6	19.2	8.09
	Comprehen	410	0.78	35	27.4	4.7	2.18	113.8	14.8	6.89
	Total	410	0.90	80	58.3	11.7	3.72	432.0	33.7	10.70

Table 8. Reliability, Raw Score and Scaled Score Descriptive Statistics for MontCAS ELP 2008–2009 Test Forms by Grade (Continued)

Grades 3-5				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
C1	Listening	14	0.84	20	14.6	4.2	1.70	97.3	18.1	7.29
	Speaking	14	0.91	20	11.4	6.1	1.82	90.7	20.4	6.09
	Reading	14	0.84	20	9.4	4.5	1.78	87.3	14.3	5.69
	Writing	14	0.71	20	9.6	3.8	2.05	88.1	11.5	6.16
	Comprehen	14	0.82	33	21.8	5.6	2.40	91.9	10.5	4.46
	Total	14	0.93	80	44.9	15.1	3.87	379.4	22.2	5.67

Grade 3				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
C2	Listening	339	0.79	25	16.8	4.5	2.08	100.8	11.8	5.41
	Speaking	322	0.80	25	18.1	4.7	2.07	105.1	14.3	6.33
	Reading	340	0.76	25	13.0	4.7	2.31	98.8	10.6	5.17
	Writing	337	0.81	25	12.5	4.8	2.09	98.3	13.6	6.01
	Comprehen	341	0.86	46	28.5	7.9	2.91	99.6	10.7	3.96
	Total	341	0.92	100	59.1	15.7	4.50	398.7	19.0	5.45

Grade 4				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
C2	Listening	336	0.74	25	18.5	3.8	1.96	105.5	11.0	5.65
	Speaking	335	0.78	25	19.5	4.1	1.95	110.2	14.6	6.89
	Reading	337	0.74	25	15.9	4.4	2.28	104.9	11.0	5.64
	Writing	337	0.79	25	15.1	4.4	2.03	105.7	12.3	5.66
	Comprehen	337	0.82	46	32.5	6.6	2.77	105.0	9.6	4.02
	Total	337	0.89	100	68.8	13.0	4.25	410.8	17.0	5.55

Grade 5				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
C2	Listening	298	0.76	25	19.4	3.8	1.86	108.7	12.2	5.99
	Speaking	299	0.76	25	20.7	3.8	1.87	114.9	15.5	7.61
	Reading	300	0.81	25	17.8	4.9	2.15	110.7	14.3	6.24
	Writing	301	0.80	25	16.0	4.6	2.04	108.5	14.0	6.18
	Comprehen	300	0.87	46	34.7	7.2	2.61	109.0	11.6	4.22
	Total	301	0.92	100	73.5	14.4	4.10	417.9	21.8	6.23

Table 8. Reliability, Raw Score and Scaled Score Descriptive Statistics for MontCAS ELP 2008–2009 Test Forms by Grade (Continued)

Grades 6-8				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
D1	Listening	15	0.88	20	13.6	5.0	1.75	91.4	15.4	5.33
	Speaking	15	0.89	20	10.4	6.1	2.01	85.2	15.5	5.10
	Reading	15	0.78	20	11.1	4.3	2.02	89.3	10.7	5.01
	Writing	15	0.83	20	11.7	4.6	1.88	89.2	11.9	4.88
	Comprehen	15	0.91	33	21.5	7.8	2.32	89.9	12.6	3.72
	Total	15	0.96	80	46.7	23.9	5.04	374.9	23.9	5.04

Grade 6				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
D2	Listening	270	0.79	25	17.2	4.5	2.07	97.4	9.7	4.47
	Speaking	267	0.78	25	18.7	4.5	2.13	101.1	12.5	5.90
	Reading	269	0.81	28	17.9	5.4	2.38	96.8	9.5	4.16
	Writing	268	0.79	27	15.3	4.5	2.09	97.0	8.9	4.11
	Comprehen	271	0.88	48	32.7	8.3	2.86	96.8	8.9	3.06
	Total	271	0.92	105	68.4	16.0	4.47	392.9	16.3	4.54

Grade 7				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
D2	Listening	292	0.80	25	18.1	4.4	2.00	99.4	10.2	4.59
	Speaking	292	0.80	25	20.8	4.1	1.85	107.2	13.1	5.85
	Reading	294	0.80	28	19.9	5.2	2.34	100.8	10.6	4.80
	Writing	293	0.78	27	16.9	4.6	2.15	100.5	9.5	4.42
	Comprehen	294	0.88	48	35.1	7.9	2.73	99.8	9.8	3.36
	Total	294	0.92	105	75.3	15.2	4.30	400.8	16.8	4.73

Grade 8				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
D2	Listening	233	0.82	25	19.0	4.5	1.90	101.9	11.0	4.66
	Speaking	233	0.73	25	21.1	3.5	1.83	108.0	12.5	6.46
	Reading	234	0.76	28	21.2	4.8	2.32	103.2	10.4	5.09
	Writing	235	0.77	27	18.0	4.5	2.18	102.9	10.9	5.21
	Comprehen	235	0.90	48	36.9	8.0	2.58	102.2	10.6	3.41
	Total	235	0.92	105	78.8	14.7	4.24	404.6	17.0	4.91

Table 8. Reliability, Raw Score and Scaled Score Descriptive Statistics for MontCAS ELP 2008–2009 Test Forms by Grade (Continued)

Grades 9-12				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
E1	Listening	9	0.82	20	13.0	4.3	1.81	84.1	10.1	4.23
	Speaking	9	0.86	20	10.2	5.5	2.06	83.0	14.4	5.43
	Reading	9	0.77	20	11.4	3.7	1.78	84.8	10.4	4.92
	Writing	9	0.59	20	12.1	3.1	1.97	86.7	6.9	4.42
	Comprehen	9	0.87	34	21.9	6.7	2.42	84.4	9.7	3.51
	Total	9	0.94	80	46.8	16.6	4.18	372.3	16.6	4.18

Grade 9				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
E2	Listening	258	0.80	25	18.2	4.3	1.93	97.5	10.3	4.60
	Speaking	253	0.72	25	20.0	3.7	1.95	104.2	11.8	6.19
	Reading	261	0.74	28	17.9	4.8	2.46	98.5	8.8	4.50
	Writing	257	0.77	27	16.5	4.9	2.33	97.6	8.5	4.08
	Comprehen	260	0.87	49	34.0	7.6	2.76	97.8	8.6	3.14
	Total	261	0.92	105	71.5	15.5	4.51	396.4	13.2	3.84

Grade 10				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
E2	Listening	215	0.80	25	19.4	4.1	1.84	100.8	10.9	4.95
	Speaking	214	0.74	25	21.0	3.4	1.72	107.7	11.8	6.00
	Reading	222	0.74	28	19.0	4.8	2.47	101.0	10.5	5.42
	Writing	218	0.77	27	17.7	4.7	2.26	100.0	9.0	4.34
	Comprehen	219	0.87	49	35.9	7.6	2.69	100.4	9.8	3.49
	Total	222	0.92	105	75.5	15.4	4.39	400.5	14.2	4.04

Grade 11				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
E2	Listening	197	0.78	25	19.7	3.9	1.82	101.2	10.3	4.80
	Speaking	193	0.72	25	20.7	3.5	1.84	106.8	11.9	6.29
	Reading	200	0.70	28	19.3	4.4	2.44	101.2	8.7	4.76
	Writing	197	0.77	27	17.5	4.8	2.30	99.2	9.0	4.32
	Comprehen	200	0.88	49	36.5	7.5	2.58	100.6	8.7	3.00
	Total	200	0.92	105	75.9	15.3	4.38	400.2	13.6	3.88

Grade 12				Raw Scores				Scaled Scores		
Form	Language Domain	N	Alpha	Max	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM	Mean	Std. Dev.	SEM
E2	Listening	172	0.77	25	20.3	3.6	1.73	102.5	9.8	4.65
	Speaking	166	0.69	25	21.1	3.3	1.84	108.1	12.2	6.85
	Reading	172	0.70	28	19.9	4.4	2.38	102.8	9.2	5.03
	Writing	171	0.74	27	18.4	4.4	2.23	100.9	8.4	4.24
	Comprehen	173	0.87	49	37.5	7.2	2.53	102.0	8.9	3.16
	Total	173	0.91	105	78.4	14.2	4.30	402.6	13.1	3.98

9. Validity of the MontCAS ELP

9.1 Content-related Validity. Validity of the MontCAS ELP begins with test content. The Introduction to the *Mountain West Assessment Consortium Foundation Document*, included as an appendix to the *2006–2007 MontCAS ELP Technical Report*, provides background information on the design of the assessment. Additional information on the development of the Mountain West Items is provided in Matthews (2007). All of the items on the previous years' MontCAS ELP were developed as part of that Mountain West Consortium effort. As described in Section 2, some items on the 2009–2010 MontCAS ELP were developed by Questar for the spring 2009 IELA.

9.2 Construct and Criterion-related Validity. In addition to test design considerations, test results also bear on the content validity of the assessment. In very general terms, the distribution and range of scores within each grade span and grade level (Table 8) provide evidence that the MontCAS ELP can capture a range of abilities. Table 9 provides information on the validity of the assessment showing intercorrelations among components of the test. This table shows, by grade span for Level 2 forms, Pearson product moment correlations among scaled scores on each subtest (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Comprehension). Correlations are not reported for subtests that share common items (e.g., Reading and Comprehension) nor are they reported for subtests and Total MontCAS ELP. The number below the correlation coefficient in each cell represents the number of students on which the correlation is based.

Table 9. Correlations Among Scaled Scores on Individual Language Domain Tests

Grade	K	1-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	
r	A	B2	C2	D2	E2	Avg.
L x S	0.57 432	0.49 738	0.42 954	0.37 789	0.35 818	0.44
L x R	0.35 433	0.53 757	0.58 972	0.65 792	0.51 841	0.52
L x W	0.36 432	0.45 754	0.52 970	0.59 792	0.50 835	0.48
S x R	0.41 435	0.46 740	0.37 956	0.38 792	0.36 826	0.39
S x W	0.39 434	0.42 736	0.34 955	0.33 790	0.31 817	0.36
S x C	0.62 432	0.54 739	0.42 956	0.39 792	0.37 822	0.47
R x W	0.61 435	0.62 755	0.65 974	0.71 795	0.62 843	0.64
W x C	0.48 432	0.56 755	0.65 974	0.70 796	0.64 843	0.61
Avg.	0.47	0.51	0.49	0.51	0.46	

All of the correlation coefficients in Table 9 are significantly different from zero, indicating that the different subtests are measuring related abilities. Insofar as the language domain tests are measuring aspects of the same construct, English proficiency, performance in the different domains should be related. In addition, however, most of the coefficients are not high enough to suggest that the abilities measured by the individual domain tests are identical, reinforcing the assumption that language domain abilities are different aspects of overall English proficiency. In general, the correlations are higher for this year than last year, but the pattern of values in Table 9 is similar to that obtained in previous administrations, suggesting that the internal structure of the tests across years is similar.

One valuable source of evidence relevant to the validity of a test is the relationship between scores on the test to those on another test measuring a similar or related construct. Student scores on the MontCAS Criterion-referenced Test (CRT) were provided for a group of students who had also been administered the MontCAS ELP. Data bearing on the relationship between those measures of student ability are presented next. The same data were presented in the *2008–2009 Technical Report*. It is also reported here because it is the latest available data between the MontCAS ELP and MontCAS CRT. Table 10 shows student ability as measured by the English Language Arts (ELA) and the Math portions of the CRT compared to ability measured by the

MontCAS ELP. On each test—ELA, Math, and ELP—students are classified, based on their performance, in one of four categories: Novice, Nearing Proficiency, Proficient, and Advanced. Each cell shows the number of students who were classified in each category on each test. For example, of the 1,279 students who were classified as proficient on the MontCAS ELP test, 308 were classified as Novice on the ELA portion of the CRT, 524 as Nearing Proficiency, 408 as Proficient and 39 as Advanced. Overall, the table shows that there is a positive relationship between performance on the CRT and ELP test. The distribution of scores on the ELA CRT is different from that on the Math CRT. More than half of the students administered the Math CRT scored at the Novice level, whereas the distribution was more evenly divided on the ELA CRT.

Table 10. Numbers of Students Scoring at Each Performance Level on the MontCAS ELP Test and on MontCAS Criterion-Referenced Tests in ELA and Math

CRT		MontCAS ELP				
		Novice	Nearing Proficient	Proficient	Advanced	Total
ELA	Novice	51	259	308	2	620
	Nearing Prof.	8	115	524	21	668
	Proficient	10	23	408	90	531
	Advanced	6	10	39	64	177
	Total	75	407	1279	177	1938
Math	Novice	54	315	682	21	1072
	Nearing Prof.	5	61	390	46	502
	Proficient	11	24	185	90	310
	Advanced	5	7	22	20	54
	Total	75	407	1279	177	1938

A quantitative measure of the relationship between performance on these two tests was generated in the following way. Each of the categories for each test was assigned a point value: Novice = 1; Nearing Proficiency = 2; Proficient = 3; and Advanced = 4. Using these point values, a set of paired scores was generated, one pair for each of the 1,938 students administered the ELP and ELA tests and another pair for each of the 1,938 students administered the ELP and Math tests. Because these numbers represent ordinal categories rather than a continuous variable, a Spearman R correlation was calculated. Each cell in Table 11 shows a Spearman correlation coefficient and the numbers of pairs of scores on which the coefficient was based. Correlational data are only available for grades in which the CRT is administered (i.e., grades 3–8 and 10).

Coefficients are shown for all grades, two grade clusters and grade 10. All correlation coefficients are significantly different from zero, establishing that there is a positive relation between performance on the MontCAS ELP test and the CRT in both ELA and Math. In addition, the correlation coefficients are uniformly higher for the ELA test than for the Math test. Finally, the coefficients for both ELA and Math remain relatively stable over grade clusters.

Table 11. Correlations between Performance Levels on the MontCAS ELP and ELA and Math CRT

MontCAS CRT				
	All Grades	Grade 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grade 10
ELA	0.48 1,938	0.43 969	0.49 779	0.52 190
Math	0.34 1,938	0.35 969	0.31 779	0.31 190

10. MontCAS ELP Performance by Year

Table 12 shows results for 2008 and 2009 by form and grade, thus allowing a comparison of performance across those years. This table shows, for each language domain: comprehension, and total MontCAS ELP, the maximum obtainable raw score (**RS_{Max}**), number of students (**N**) administered the assessment, the average raw score (**RS_{Mean}**) and average scaled score (**SS_{Mean}**). Whereas changes in average scaled scores can be used to compare performance across years within a grade, raw scores cannot be compared because of the change in the number of RS points per form across the years.

When comparing 2009 to 2008, there was generally a decline in the number of students tested in each grade except for Kindergarten with an increase of about 8%. As in previous years, with the exception of B1, only a very few students were administered the Level 1 forms. Performance on the total test varied considerably by grade between 2009 and 2008. Not taking into account C1, D1, and E1 with so few students tested, the scaled score mean increased over 4 points between 2009 and 2008 at Kindergarten and grade 10, and increased about 1 scaled score at grades 7, 9, and 11. At grades 5 and 8, there was virtually no change in performance between 2009 and 2008, and at grades 1–4 and 6, performance declined by about 3 or more scaled scores. The largest change in performance was for B1, with grades 1 and 2 combined, where the 2009 average scaled score for the total test was almost 20 points less than in 2008.

Table 12. Performance on 2008 and 2009 MontCAS ELP Test Forms by Grade

		2008				2009			
Form	Language Domain	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}
Kindergarten									
A	Listening	15	402	9.4	106.5	20	433	15.0	113.9
	Speaking	15	402	11.0	106.1	20	435	13.9	113.3
	Reading	27	402	11.7	83.7	24	436	9.3	76.9
	Writing	22	402	5.9	67.4	22	435	6.5	72.0
	Comprehen	18	402	9.8	104.5	27	433	16.8	105.4
	Total	79	402	38.0	383.0	86	436	44.5	389.3
Grade 1-2									
B1	Listening	15	109	10.2	97.5	15	102	11.0	88.7
	Speaking	15	109	9.1	101.9	15	103	9.2	94.0
	Reading	15	110	8.9	86.7	15	104	9.5	82.5
	Writing	15	109	6.9	90.7	15	104	8.2	85.2
	Comprehen	23	110	14.0	91.7	24	104	15.5	84.2
	Total	60	110	34.9	383.3	60	104	37.7	363.7
Grade 1									
B2	Listening	18	383	10.5	103.1	20	347	13.1	99.5
	Speaking	18	384	13.0	108.6	20	346	13.9	111.2
	Reading	18	383	9.4	97.1	20	349	9.9	94.2
	Writing	18	382	4.6	88.6	20	347	6.3	85.3
	Comprehen	36	385	19.3	99.7	35	348	21.3	98.0
	Total	72	386	37.2	398.5	80	350	42.8	391.6
Grade 2									
B2	Listening	18	464	13.2	114.8	20	410	16.1	114.8
	Speaking	18	468	14.4	116.3	20	394	16.2	122.0
	Reading	18	468	13.5	115.4	20	410	14.7	113.1
	Writing	18	466	9.2	111.6	20	409	12.0	107.6
	Comprehen	36	468	26.0	114.2	35	410	27.4	113.8
	Total	72	468	50.1	435.7	80	410	58.3	432.0

Table 12. Performance on 2008 and 2009 MontCAS ELP Test Forms by Grade (continued)

		2008				2009			
Form	Language Domain	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}
Grade 3-5									
C1	Listening	15	12	9.3	93.1	20	14	14.6	97.3
	Speaking	15	12	9.1	93.4	20	14	11.4	90.7
	Reading	15	12	8.3	88.3	20	14	9.4	87.3
	Writing	15	12	7.2	85.3	20	14	9.6	88.1
	Comprehen	27	12	15.6	91.0	33	14	21.8	91.9
	Total	60	12	33.9	378.8	80	14	44.9	379.4
Grade 3									
C2	Listening	18	457	11.0	101.8	25	339	16.8	100.8
	Speaking	18	460	13.9	104.2	25	322	18.1	105.1
	Reading	18	459	10.0	101.3	25	340	13.0	98.8
	Writing	18	456	8.2	99.9	25	337	12.5	98.3
	Comprehen	36	460	20.9	101.1	46	341	28.5	99.6
	Total	72	460	42.9	401.6	100	341	59.1	398.7
Grade 4									
C2	Listening	18	412	12.6	107.4	25	336	18.5	105.5
	Speaking	18	413	15.3	110.8	25	335	19.5	110.2
	Reading	18	413	11.6	107.3	25	337	15.9	104.9
	Writing	18	413	10.0	106.5	25	337	15.1	105.7
	Comprehen	36	413	24.2	106.7	46	337	32.5	105.0
	Total	72	413	49.6	413.6	100	337	68.8	410.8
Grade 5									
C2	Listening	18	340	13.0	109.2	25	298	19.4	108.7
	Speaking	18	342	15.6	112.8	25	299	20.7	114.9
	Reading	18	341	12.7	111.3	25	300	17.8	110.7
	Writing	18	341	10.5	108.3	25	301	16.0	108.5
	Comprehen	36	341	25.7	109.5	46	300	34.7	109.0
	Total	72	342	51.6	418.0	100	301	73.5	417.9

Table 12. Performance on 2008 and 2009 MontCAS ELP Test Forms by Grade (continued)

		2008				2009			
Form	Language Domain	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}
Grade 6-8									
D1	Listening	15	13	8.8	86.0	20	15	13.6	91.4
	Speaking	15	13	7.2	82.9	20	15	10.4	85.2
	Reading	15	13	8.3	82.5	20	15	11.1	89.3
	Writing	15	13	8.5	82.4	20	15	11.7	89.2
	Comprehen	29	13	16.2	84.1	33	15	21.5	89.9
	Total	60	13	32.8	364.9	80	15	46.7	374.9
Grade 6									
D2	Listening	18	303	12.6	99.1	25	270	17.2	97.4
	Speaking	18	307	14.8	104.6	25	267	18.7	101.1
	Reading	20	307	9.7	97.9	28	269	17.9	96.8
	Writing	20	305	11.4	96.3	27	268	15.3	97.0
	Comprehen	38	307	22.1	98.1	48	271	32.7	96.8
	Total	76	307	48.3	396.2	105	271	68.4	392.9
Grade 7									
D2	Listening	18	288	13.3	101.6	25	292	18.1	99.4
	Speaking	18	291	15.1	106.1	25	292	20.8	107.2
	Reading	20	288	10.7	100.4	28	294	19.9	100.8
	Writing	20	288	12.3	98.8	27	293	16.9	100.5
	Comprehen	38	289	24.0	100.5	48	294	35.1	99.8
	Total	76	291	51.0	399.8	105	294	75.3	400.8
Grade 8									
D2	Listening	18	334	13.9	103.7	25	233	19.0	101.9
	Speaking	18	338	15.1	107.0	25	233	21.1	108.0
	Reading	20	336	12.0	103.3	28	234	21.2	103.2
	Writing	20	334	13.3	102.1	27	235	18.0	102.9
	Comprehen	38	336	25.8	102.9	48	235	36.9	102.2
	Total	76	338	54.0	404.9	105	235	78.8	404.6

Table 12. Performance on 2008 and 2009 MontCAS ELP Test Forms by Grade (continued)

		2008				2009			
Form	Language Domain	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}	RS _{Max}	N	RS _{Mean}	SS _{Mean}
Grade 9-12									
E1	Listening	15	9	8.9	88.0	20	9	13.0	84.1
	Speaking	15	9	9.9	90.0	20	9	10.2	83.0
	Reading	15	9	9.0	84.6	20	9	11.4	84.8
	Writing	15	9	6.2	78.4	20	9	12.1	86.7
	Comprehen	28	9	16.2	86.7	34	9	21.9	84.4
	Total	60	9	34.0	371.6	80	9	46.8	372.3
Grade 9									
E2	Listening	18	275	11.6	96.1	25	258	18.2	97.5
	Speaking	18	281	14.2	103.1	25	253	20.0	104.2
	Reading	20	280	12.3	98.0	28	261	17.9	98.5
	Writing	20	278	10.7	96.1	27	257	16.5	97.6
	Comprehen	38	280	23.7	96.5	49	260	34.0	97.8
	Total	76	281	48.5	395.3	105	261	71.5	396.4
Grade 10									
E2	Listening	18	249	12.2	97.7	25	215	19.4	100.8
	Speaking	18	254	13.9	101.7	25	214	21.0	107.7
	Reading	20	252	12.8	99.3	28	222	19.0	101.0
	Writing	20	250	11.3	97.7	27	218	17.7	100.0
	Comprehen	38	252	24.8	97.9	49	219	35.9	100.4
	Total	76	254	49.6	396.4	105	222	75.5	400.5
Grade 11									
E2	Listening	18	193	13.2	101.6	25	197	19.7	101.2
	Speaking	18	198	13.9	102.0	25	193	20.7	106.8
	Reading	20	195	13.7	101.6	28	200	19.3	101.2
	Writing	20	194	12.0	99.4	27	197	17.5	99.2
	Comprehen	38	195	26.8	101.0	49	200	36.5	100.6
	Total	76	198	52.0	399.5	105	200	75.9	400.2
Grade 12									
E2	Listening	18	189	12.9	100.4	25	172	20.3	102.5
	Speaking	18	191	14.6	104.7	25	166	21.1	108.1
	Reading	20	190	13.7	101.8	28	172	19.9	102.8
	Writing	20	190	12.0	99.5	27	171	18.4	100.9
	Comprehen	38	190	26.5	100.7	49	173	37.5	102.0
	Total	76	191	53.0	400.3	105	173	78.4	402.6

Performance on MontCAS ELP 2007, 2008 and 2009 is summarized in Table 13. This table shows the percent of students in each Total MontCAS ELP Proficiency category by grade (N=Novice, NP=Nearing Proficiency, P=Proficient, A=Advanced). This table is not from a matched sample and includes all students tested in each year.

Table 13. Total MontCAS ELP Level by Grade in 2007, 2008, and 2009

Grade	Percent in each Proficiency Category													
	2007					2008					2009			
	N	NP	P	A		N	NP	P	A		N	NP	P	A
K	26	42	26	6		24	41	26	9		15	48	27	10
1	8	20	56	16		5	16	61	18		10	22	58	11
2	4	14	62	20		2	12	73	13		5	13	68	14
3	2	14	61	23		2	11	67	19		3	15	67	15
4	4	19	57	20		2	16	68	15		2	14	71	13
5	7	21	65	7		8	18	71	3		7	17	74	3
6	3	20	59	19		1	30	57	11		6	29	55	10
7	3	20	64	14		3	24	65	9		3	25	59	13
8	3	14	79	5		3	18	76	3		3	19	76	2
9	3	37	56	4		2	40	56	1		3	33	62	2
10	3	27	66	5		5	37	57	1		2	33	61	4
11	7	28	63	2		7	38	55	0		5	34	61	0
12	5	25	66	4		2	46	53	0		2	30	66	1
K-12	6	23	59	12		5	24	61	10		6	25	61	9

As in previous administrations of the MontCAS ELP, the percent in each proficiency category across all grades (the last row, K-12) remains fairly stable from one year to the next. However, the percent in each proficiency category varies grade by grade. From 2008 to 2009, the percent in the Proficient and Advanced categories increased at grades 9–12, but often the percent in one or both categories decreased in the lower grades. It is worth noting the overall changes in numbers tested across years. There were approximately 500 fewer students tested in 2009 than in 2008 and approximately 1,000 fewer students tested in 2008 than in 2007. Such large reductions in the numbers tested grade by grade over the years certainly can have an impact on the distribution of proficiency categories at each grade across the years.

Table 14 shows a summary of MontCAS ELP Growth Reports by grade. Whereas Tables 12 and 13, comparing performance across years, do not represent a matched sample (i.e., students who were tested in both years), Table 14 represents the performance of students who were tested in

both 2008 and 2009 and whose results were matched. Of the 3,973 students tested in Fall 2009, test results for 2,421 or 60.9% were matched to the previous year. Each cell in the table shows the number and percent of students by grade. Table 14 summarizes three categories of change in proficiency levels from 2008 to 2009. The “declining” category shows the number and percent of students whose proficiency level declined by one or more levels from 2008 to 2009. The “maintaining” category represents the number and percent of students who stayed at the same proficiency level, and the “gaining” category shows the number and percent of students that either remained at the advanced level or gained in proficiency by one or more levels. In every grade except grade 1, the largest percentage of students fell into the “maintaining” category.

Table 14. Summary of 2008 to 2009 Growth Reports

Grade	Declining	Maintaining	Gaining
1	16 (6.2%)	83 (32.0%)	160 (61.8%)
2	49 (15.2%)	181 (56.2%)	92 (28.6%)
3	32 (12.4%)	160 (62.0%)	66 (25.6%)
4	43 (15.4%)	166 (59.3%)	71 (25.4%)
5	51 (22.0%)	158 (68.1%)	23 (9.9%)
6	32 (14.8%)	139 (64.4%)	45 (20.8%)
7	20 (10.0%)	124 (61.7%)	57 (28.4%)
8	20 (11.9%)	108 (64.3%)	40 (23.8%)
9	29 (19.6%)	101 (68.2%)	18 (12.2%)
10	14 (11.4%)	80 (65.5%)	29 (23.6%)
11	15 (11.7%)	85 (66.4%)	28 (21.9%)
12	2 (2.3%)	64 (74.4%)	20 (23.3%)
1-12	323 (13.3%)	1449 (59.9%)	649 (26.8%)

For comparison purposes, Table 15 shows a summary of MontCAS ELP Growth Reports for those students who were tested in Fall 2007 and Fall 2008. Of the 4,475 students tested in Fall 2008, test results for 2,715 or 60.7% were matched to the previous year. Table 16 shows a summary of MontCAS ELP Growth Reports for those students who were tested in Fall 2006 and Fall 2007. Of the 5,478 students tested in Fall 2007, test results for 3,291 or 60.1% were matched to the previous year. Across the three pairs of years, the percentages matched were very similar. In addition, comparing the final row in Tables 14, 15, and 16, the percentages over all grades in each of the three categories were very similar.

Table 15. Summary of 2007 to 2008 Growth Reports

Grade	Declining	Maintaining	Gaining
1	8 (2.7%)	71 (24.4%)	212 (72.9%)
2	26 (8.5%)	165 (53.7%)	116 (37.8%)
3	46 (15.3%)	167 (55.5%)	88 (29.2%)
4	33 (11.3%)	198 (68.0%)	60 (20.6%)
5	50 (19.5%)	161 (62.9%)	45 (17.6%)
6	28 (12.8%)	128 (58.7%)	62 (28.4%)
7	25 (11.8%)	143 (67.8%)	43 (20.4%)
8	37 (14.6%)	180 (71.1%)	36 (14.2%)
9	46 (28.8%)	99 (61.9%)	15 (9.4%)
10	27 (15.1%)	118 (65.9%)	34 (19.0%)
11	27 (23.7%)	78 (68.4%)	9 (7.9%)
12	17 (12.7%)	100 (74.6%)	17 (12.7%)
1-12	370 (13.6%)	1608 (59.2%)	737 (27.1%)

Table 16. Summary of 2006 to 2007 Growth Reports

Grade	Declining	Maintaining	Gaining
1	29 (9.1%)	106 (33.4%)	182 (57.4%)
2	27 (7.9%)	173 (50.7)	141 (41.3%)
3	28 (9.4%)	168 (56.4%)	102 (34.2%)
4	43 (13.9%)	166 (53.5%)	101 (32.6%)
5	54 (19.4%)	178 (63.8%)	47 (16.8%)
6	30 (10.1%)	162 (54.7%)	104 (35.1%)
7	28 (9.2%)	187 (61.7%)	88 (29.0%)
8	30 (10.1%)	198 (66.4%)	70 (23.5%)
9	40 (15.7%)	172 (67.7%)	42 (16.5%)
10	19 (9.4%)	149 (73.8%)	34 (16.8%)
11	31 (15.5%)	147 (73.5%)	22 (11.0%)
12	19 (9.8%)	130 (67.4%)	44 (22.8%)
1-12	378 (11.5%)	1936 (58.8%)	977 (29.7%)

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Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data**Table A1: Grade K: Form A**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88072	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		8	90	0		2	0.90	0.62
88417	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		73	23	1		2	0.73	0.22
88002	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		8	3	86		2	0.86	0.31
88415	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		94	0	3		2	0.94	0.32
88070	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		5	3	91		2	0.91	0.43
88067	6	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	29	69				2	0.69	0.44
88068	7	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	23	61				16	0.61	0.53
72002	8	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	21	71				8	0.71	0.51
72004	9	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	11	83				6	0.83	0.50
72003	10	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	11	83				6	0.83	0.56
72006	11	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	18	72				10	0.72	0.52
72008	12	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	16	78				6	0.78	0.49
8235002	13	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	17	74				9	0.74	0.47
8009001	14	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	25	67				8	0.67	0.40
8009002	15	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	13	79				8	0.79	0.49
8009003	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		24	64	8		3	0.64	0.26
8009004	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	436		50	21	25		4	0.50	0.27
8040001	18	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	25	68				8	0.68	0.44
8040003	19	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	11	83				7	0.83	0.54
8040005	20	Listening	CR	Core	1	436	34	55				11	0.55	0.46
88131	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	2	96				2	0.96	0.33
72025	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	13	83				5	0.83	0.40
72023	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	14	81				6	0.81	0.39
72022	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	2	96				1	0.96	0.36
88127	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	11	87				2	0.87	0.49
72159	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	11	87				2	0.87	0.40
88306	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	4	94				2	0.94	0.47
72018	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	36	55				8	0.55	0.42
72153	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	23	72				5	0.72	0.55
72012	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	436	17	80				4	0.80	0.56
72030	11	Speaking	CR	Core	2	436	9	11	75			4	0.81	0.62
88414	12	Speaking	CR	Core	4	436	7	17	26	30	14	6	0.54	0.65
88130	13	Speaking	CR	Core	4	436	9	23	26	24	8	10	0.44	0.60
88101	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		32	3	64		1	0.64	0.41
88084	2	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	36	53				10	0.53	0.56
88288	3	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	40	53				7	0.53	0.58
88091	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		13	9	68		10	0.68	0.49
88092	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		6	73	9		12	0.73	0.50
88098	6	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	20	63				17	0.63	0.56
88282	7	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	38	44				17	0.44	0.58
88286	8	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	31	49				20	0.49	0.70
88093	9	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	28	47				24	0.47	0.72
88287	10	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	25	46				28	0.46	0.71

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A1: Grade K: Form A (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88090	11	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	40	26				34	0.26	0.57
72195	12	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	24	43				33	0.43	0.64
71447	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		43	17	7		33	0.43	0.53
8212001	14	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	19	44				37	0.44	0.72
8211005	15	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	51	6				43	0.06	0.34
8212002	16	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	46	14				40	0.14	0.47
8211003	17	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	41	14				45	0.14	0.47
71448	18	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		14	25	10		51	0.25	0.37
88540	19	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		13	20	16		51	0.20	0.37
88087	20	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		27	13	7		53	0.27	0.47
88103	21	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		24	10	11		54	0.24	0.42
88294	22	Reading	MC	Core	1	436		23	17	6		53	0.17	0.35
8038003	23	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	15	31				54	0.31	0.56
8038004	24	Reading	CR	Core	1	436	15	32				53	0.32	0.57
8273001	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	21	75				3	0.75	0.35
8273002	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	42	50				8	0.50	0.48
8280001	3	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	20	62				18	0.62	0.30
8280002	4	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	58	18				23	0.18	0.39
8280003	5	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	42	33				25	0.33	0.47
88452	6	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	5	15	32	43		5	0.75	0.43
72295	7	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	13	32	33	17		5	0.49	0.58
88451	8	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	13	28	36	17		5	0.54	0.58
88453	9	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	32	41	13	8		6	0.20	0.61
88454	10	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	28	36	17	13		6	0.30	0.58
72296	11	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	20	33	30	11		6	0.41	0.64
88461	12	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	27	36	20	10		7	0.30	0.64
88456	13	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	30	37	20	7		6	0.27	0.70
88457	14	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	50	33	8	3		7	0.11	0.59
88462	15	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	58	28	6	2		7	0.07	0.53
88455	16	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	63	21	7	2		7	0.10	0.61
88458	17	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	69	17	5	2		7	0.07	0.59
88467	18	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	43	30	14	7		6	0.20	0.50
88464	19	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	71	16	5	2		6	0.06	0.51
88465	20	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	61	20	10	3		6	0.13	0.55
72297	21	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	70	17	3	3		6	0.06	0.46
88466	22	Writing	CR	Core	1	436	79	10	4	1		7	0.05	0.46

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A2: Grades 1-2: Form B1**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88072	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		9	89			2	0.89	0.55
88007	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		2	96			2	0.96	0.46
88002	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		6	2	90		2	0.90	0.37
88416	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		13	1	85		2	0.85	0.27
88003	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		88	9	1		2	0.88	0.36
88004	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		94	1	3		2	0.94	0.42
8202001	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		12	8	79		2	0.79	0.53
8201001	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		54	26	18		2	0.54	0.25
8201002	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		28	52	14		6	0.52	0.27
8204001	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		16	70	12		2	0.70	0.49
8204002	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		26	25	46		3	0.46	0.35
8041001	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		16	67	13		3	0.67	0.45
8041002	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		63	13	17		7	0.63	0.33
8041003	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		52	13	33		2	0.52	0.29
8041004	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	104		21	19	57		3	0.57	0.42
88305	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	4	92				4	0.92	0.37
72043	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	17	77				6	0.77	0.55
72025	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	12	88				1	0.88	0.36
88324	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	23	66				11	0.66	0.47
72169	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	22	75				3	0.75	0.47
72170	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	18	74				8	0.74	0.41
72162	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	40	50				10	0.50	0.54
72161	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	40	53				7	0.53	0.41
88319	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	104	15	78				7	0.78	0.43
88021	10	Speaking	CR	Core	2	104	10	51	24			15	0.50	0.50
88130	11	Speaking	CR	Core	4	104	6	38	35	12	4	7	0.39	0.50
88026	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		8	3	86		4	0.86	0.19
71462	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		8	9	84			0.84	0.38
71461	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		3	94	3			0.94	0.07
71452	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		74	14	8		4	0.74	0.09
88424	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		71	14	13		2	0.71	0.20
88042	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		79	16	5			0.79	0.21
88553	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		13	33	50		4	0.50	0.48
88472	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		16	72	11		1	0.72	0.29
71471	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		38	22	37		3	0.37	0.45
88036	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		19	59	17		5	0.59	0.26
88033	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		27	57	14		2	0.57	0.36
88039	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		25	27	45		3	0.45	0.44
88040	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		59	24	16		1	0.59	0.23
8005001	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		45	23	27		5	0.45	0.13
8005002	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	104		30	43	21		6	0.43	0.28
72291	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	9	89				2	0.89	0.42
88327	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	29	67				4	0.67	0.40
88397	3	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	6	93				1	0.93	0.27

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A2: Grades 1-2: Form B1 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88044	4	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	16	80				4	0.80	0.57
88047	5	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	63	35				3	0.35	0.51
88045	6	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	31	67				2	0.67	0.62
88046	7	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	48	47				5	0.47	0.64
88048	8	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	55	31				14	0.31	0.46
88402	9	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	47	44				9	0.44	0.68
88331	10	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	52	40				8	0.40	0.64
88051	11	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	43	52				5	0.52	0.59
72211	12	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	26	65				9	0.65	0.68
88053	13	Writing	CR	Core	1	104	48	46				6	0.46	0.38
88061	14	Writing	CR	Core	2	104	39	40	13			8	0.33	0.61

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A3: Grades 1-2: Form B2**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88072	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		1	97	0		1	0.97	0.30
88417	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		12	84	1		2	0.84	0.39
88001	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		97	1	1		1	0.97	0.32
88004	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		95	2	1		2	0.95	0.28
88005	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		8	1	89		2	0.89	0.34
8202001	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		4	3	90		2	0.90	0.40
8202002	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		22	22	52		4	0.52	0.28
8201001	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		83	9	6		2	0.83	0.36
8201002	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		20	71	6		3	0.71	0.31
8206001	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		71	16	11		3	0.71	0.40
8206002	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		18	22	56		3	0.56	0.34
8239001	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		22	53	22		3	0.53	0.38
8239002	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		56	20	20		4	0.56	0.35
8239003	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		15	67	15		4	0.67	0.42
8205001	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		20	27	49		3	0.49	0.38
8205002	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		26	51	18		5	0.51	0.28
8001001	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		16	67	14		3	0.67	0.37
8001002	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		8	20	67		3	0.67	0.30
8001003	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		86	7	3		4	0.86	0.36
8001004	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	760		86	3	5		5	0.86	0.32
72025	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	3	93				4	0.93	0.54
72179	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	7	87				6	0.87	0.46
72044	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	21	73				6	0.73	0.46
88016	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	3	94				4	0.94	0.53
88324	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	6	89				5	0.89	0.51
72170	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	6	89				5	0.89	0.49
72041	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	9	86				4	0.86	0.56
72061	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	29	64				7	0.64	0.49
72033	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	23	70				7	0.70	0.57
72050	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	14	81				5	0.81	0.55
72165	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	26	68				6	0.68	0.56
88400	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	760	15	80				5	0.80	0.60
72171	13	Speaking	CR	Core	2	760	19	25	51			5	0.64	0.54
88022	14	Speaking	CR	Core	2	760	7	34	52			8	0.68	0.66
88326	15	Speaking	CR	Core	4	760	4	17	23	28	23	7	0.59	0.64
88424	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		93	3	2		2	0.93	0.25
71465	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		16	67	14		3	0.67	0.48
88553	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		6	9	83		2	0.83	0.40
88314	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		13	13	70		4	0.70	0.40
88474	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		44	15	39		3	0.44	0.32
88546	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		19	56	22		3	0.56	0.35
88542	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		19	18	61		2	0.61	0.22
88472	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		5	89	3		2	0.89	0.26
88316	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		9	73	16		2	0.73	0.37

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A3: Grades 1-2: Form B2 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88040	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		84	9	3		3	0.84	0.39
8252001	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		26	49	21		3	0.49	0.33
8252002	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		69	13	12		5	0.69	0.38
8252003	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		80	3	14		3	0.80	0.39
8046003	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		22	18	53		7	0.53	0.46
8046004	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		16	66	11		8	0.66	0.48
8046005	16	Reading	MC	Core	1	760		20	43	29		8	0.43	0.32
72200	17	Reading	CR	Core	4	760	33	15	19	22	12		0.41	0.59
88053	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	34	61				5	0.61	0.44
88332	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	61	36				3	0.36	0.30
88045	3	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	14	83				3	0.83	0.44
88330	4	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	38	58				3	0.58	0.47
72213	5	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	22	75				3	0.75	0.35
88057	6	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	62	36				2	0.36	0.58
72220	7	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	36	61				3	0.61	0.61
88402	8	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	24	73				3	0.73	0.44
88331	9	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	40	56				5	0.56	0.53
72082	10	Writing	CR	Core	1	760	58	36				6	0.36	0.52
88055	11	Writing	CR	Core	2	760	46	30	20			5	0.35	0.69
72226	12	Writing	CR	Core	2	760	34	33	29			4	0.45	0.70
88054	13	Writing	CR	Core	2	760	36	38	20			7	0.39	0.68
88063	14	Writing	CR	Core	4	760	23	31	31	6	1	7	0.29	0.67

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A4: Grades 3-5: Form C1**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88070	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		7	7	86			0.86	0.44
88146	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	14					100		1.00	0.00
88159	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		14	86				0.86	0.12
88416	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	14					100		1.00	0.00
88005	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		7	7	86			0.86	0.44
8215001	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		14		21	64		0.64	0.33
8215002	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		71		7	21		0.71	0.69
8207002	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		14	7	71	7		0.71	0.69
8207003	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		14	21	7	50		0.50	0.63
8210002	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		14	64	7	14		0.64	0.29
8210001	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		86		14			0.86	0.50
8206001	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		79	7	14			0.79	0.37
8206002	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		7	36	57			0.57	0.58
8041001	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		7	86	7			0.86	0.28
8041002	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		57	7	36			0.57	0.79
8041004	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		7		93			0.93	0.32
8010001	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		50		14	36		0.50	0.27
8010002	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		71	14	14			0.71	0.69
8010003	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		21	36	7	36		0.36	0.22
8010004	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	14		14	21	64			0.64	0.25
88340	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	7	93					0.93	0.40
72179	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	29	43				29	0.43	0.24
88157	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	21	79					0.79	0.64
88428	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	29	71					0.71	0.38
88343	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	43	50				7	0.50	0.73
88018	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	36	64					0.64	0.92
88344	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	29	71					0.71	0.52
72058	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	21	71				7	0.71	0.61
72063	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	29	64				7	0.64	0.92
72194	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	14	79				7	0.79	0.64
72061	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	43	43				14	0.43	0.63
72057	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	43	50				7	0.50	0.78
72055	13	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	36	57				7	0.57	0.87
88400	14	Speaking	CR	Core	1	14	21	71				7	0.71	0.76
88143	15	Speaking	CR	Core	2	14	21	50	14			14	0.39	0.62
88148	16	Speaking	CR	Core	4	14	14	43	14	7	14	7	0.38	0.68
71465	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		14	64	21			0.64	0.51
88554	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		100					1.00	0.00
88168	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		57	14	7	21		0.57	0.62
88542	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		14	21	64			0.64	0.80
88567	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		7	7	50	29		0.50	0.29
88174	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		79	14			7	0.79	0.69
88175	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		7	50	14	29		0.29	0.57
88314	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		14	21	64			0.64	0.07

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A4: Grades 3-5: Form C1 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88189	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		29	21	21	29		0.21	0.48
88566	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		7		36	57		0.57	-0.03
8050001	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		21	64	7	7		0.64	0.63
8050002	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		7	14	57	21		0.57	0.66
8050004	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		21		14	64		0.64	0.59
8052001	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		57	14		21	7	0.21	0.18
8052002	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		7	14	36	36	7	0.36	0.46
8052003	16	Reading	MC	Core	1	14		57	21		14	7	0.57	0.39
72209	17	Reading	CR	Core	4	14	57	29	14				0.14	0.59
88164	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	14	36	64					0.64	0.46
88328	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	14	7	93					0.93	-0.18
72221	3	Writing	CR	Core	1	14	14	86					0.86	0.31
88057	4	Writing	CR	Core	1	14	50	50					0.50	0.39
88167	5	Writing	MC	Core	1	14		14	50	14	21		0.50	0.35
88190	6	Writing	MC	Core	1	14				29	64		0.64	0.15
88398	7	Writing	MC	Core	1	14		29	14	29	29		0.29	-0.34
88359	8	Writing	MC	Core	1	14		50	21	7	21		0.50	0.14
88480	9	Writing	MC	Core	1	14		14	36	43	7		0.43	0.17
88183	10	Writing	MC	Core	1	14		7	43	7	36		0.43	0.21
88349	11	Writing	CR	Core	1	14	57	36				7	0.36	0.48
72220	12	Writing	CR	Core	1	14	29	71					0.71	0.63
72087	13	Writing	CR	Core	2	14	36	43	21				0.43	0.48
8015001	14	Writing	CR	Core	2	14	21	57	14			7	0.43	0.49
88355	15	Writing	CR	Core	4	14	21	14	36	7		21	0.27	0.74

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A5: Grades 3-5: Form C2**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88005	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		6	4	88		1	0.88	0.32
88408	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		2	14	15	68	1	0.68	0.26
88158	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		16	10	63	10	1	0.63	0.36
88205	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		83	6	6	4	1	0.83	0.43
8215001	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		3	3	2	90	1	0.90	0.37
8215002	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		88	3	2	5	1	0.88	0.38
88139	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		6	79	4	11	1	0.79	0.35
8206001	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		87	5	7		1	0.87	0.43
8206002	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		13	14	72		1	0.72	0.36
8250001	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		17	65	11	5	1	0.65	0.25
8250003	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		23	9	8	57	1	0.57	0.31
8250004	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		12	14	7	65	1	0.65	0.30
8242001	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		83	6	10		1	0.83	0.52
8242002	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		5	8	85		2	0.85	0.45
8249001	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		4	4	70	20	1	0.70	0.38
8249002	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		77	13	3	4	1	0.77	0.49
8249003	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		22	13	11	52	2	0.52	0.29
8010001	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		76	3	3	17	1	0.76	0.29
8010002	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		93	2	2	1	1	0.93	0.44
8010003	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		11	45	7	36	1	0.45	0.13
8010004	21	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		1	8	86	3	1	0.86	0.38
8048001	22	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		8	40	8	42	2	0.40	0.20
8048002	23	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		8	10	57	23	1	0.57	0.41
8048003	24	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		65	9	17	8	1	0.65	0.29
8048004	25	Listening	MC	Core	1	979		3	9	74	12	2	0.74	0.30
72179	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	2	94				3	0.94	0.47
72103	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	3	94				4	0.94	0.50
72189	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	10	83				7	0.83	0.44
88345	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	3	93				3	0.93	0.51
72067	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	34	44				21	0.44	0.40
72069	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	7	89				4	0.89	0.48
72066	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	19	71				10	0.71	0.46
72062	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	18	78				4	0.78	0.52
72057	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	10	87				4	0.87	0.57
72035	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	9	88				3	0.88	0.55
72036	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	9	87				4	0.87	0.51
72186	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	9	87				4	0.87	0.54
88400	13	Speaking	CR	Core	1	979	5	92				3	0.92	0.58
72072	14	Speaking	CR	Core	2	979	6	41	49			4	0.70	0.58
72075	15	Speaking	CR	Core	2	979	16	47	26			10	0.50	0.54
88148	16	Speaking	CR	Core	4	979	2	12	19	26	35	5	0.67	0.65
88429	17	Speaking	CR	Core	4	979	1	7	17	28	44	3	0.75	0.72
71465	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		3	93	3		0	0.93	0.25
88314	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		8	5	85		1	0.85	0.24

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A5: Grades 3-5: Form C2 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88542	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		12	8	79		1	0.79	0.26
88489	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		17	70	4	8	1	0.70	0.43
88571	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		7	11	9	71	1	0.71	0.51
88572	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		15	6	66	12	1	0.66	0.47
88570	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		12	68	10	8	1	0.68	0.33
88565	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		6	11	75	7	1	0.75	0.39
88569	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		16	27	38	17	2	0.38	0.28
88235	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		10	17	13	57	1	0.57	0.39
8006002	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		5	5	88		1	0.88	0.39
8006003	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		67	19	12		2	0.67	0.45
8006005	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		19	14	64		2	0.64	0.34
8254001	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	979		11	7	7	73	2	0.73	0.41
8254002	15	Reading	MC		1	979		9	54	29	6	2	0.54	0.30
8254003	16	Reading	MC		1	979		65	19	4	11	2	0.65	0.40
8254005	17	Reading	MC		1	979		21	9	54	14	2	0.54	0.38
8255001	18	Reading	MC		1	979		68	12	8	9	2	0.68	0.43
8255002	19	Reading	MC		1	979		15	46	25	11	2	0.46	0.37
8255003	20	Reading	MC		1	979		14	40	30	15	2	0.40	0.36
8255004	21	Reading	MC		1	979		13	25	45	15	2	0.45	0.34
72206	22	Reading	CR		4	979	25	17	23	23	12		0.45	0.47
88057	1	Writing	CR		1	979	13	86				1	0.86	0.46
72261	2	Writing	CR		1	979	17	83				1	0.83	0.44
88352	3	Writing	MC		1	979		72	15	7	5	1	0.72	0.34
88173	4	Writing	MC		1	979		8	6	3	82	1	0.82	0.45
88188	5	Writing	MC		1	979		4	9	77	9	2	0.77	0.40
88184	6	Writing	MC		1	979		8	80	5	5	2	0.80	0.49
88354	7	Writing	MC		1	979		15	71	3	9	2	0.71	0.44
88483	8	Writing	MC		1	979		72	11	8	6	2	0.72	0.41
88478	9	Writing	MC		1	979		23	36	17	21	3	0.36	0.23
72220	10	Writing	CR		1	979	8	91				1	0.91	0.42
88349	11	Writing	CR		1	979	23	75				2	0.75	0.51
72086	12	Writing	CR		2	979	14	28	56			1	0.70	0.58
72233	13	Writing	CR		2	979	56	30	12			2	0.27	0.37
72228	14	Writing	CR		2	979	29	43	24			3	0.46	0.49
88179	15	Writing	CR		4	979	6	17	45	21	7	3	0.50	0.63
88180	16	Writing	CR		4	979	14	31	34	8	2	11	0.33	0.55

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A6: Grades 6-8: Form D1**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88200	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		93		7			0.93	0.37
88241	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	15				100			1.00	0.00
88408	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		7	20	20	53		0.53	0.63
88205	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		53	27	13	7		0.53	0.79
8214001	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		33	53	13			0.53	0.76
8222001	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		7	73	20			0.73	0.24
8250001	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		13	53	20	13		0.53	0.48
8250003	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		20		13	60	7	0.60	0.44
8221001	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		20	73		7		0.73	0.01
8221002	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		13		40	47		0.47	0.53
8022004	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		13	13		73		0.73	0.71
8022002	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		27	7	60	7		0.60	0.69
8022003	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		80	20				0.80	0.63
8022001	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		7	87	7			0.87	0.61
8020002	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	15			60	33	7		0.60	0.53
8020003	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		7	13	7	73		0.73	0.24
8020004	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		13	13	27	47		0.47	0.29
8249001	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		13	7	80			0.80	0.52
8249002	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		80	7	7	7		0.80	0.22
8249003	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	15		27	7	7	60		0.60	0.82
88363	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	20	67				13	0.67	0.65
88428	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	27	73					0.73	0.41
72189	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	33	47				20	0.47	0.51
88191	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	7	93					0.93	0.25
72097	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	33	60				7	0.60	0.53
72099	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	20	73				7	0.73	0.52
88194	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	7	93					0.93	0.25
88211	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	20	60				20	0.60	0.73
88362	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	53	47					0.47	0.79
72098	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	13	53				33	0.53	0.78
72069	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	47	47				7	0.47	0.74
72057	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	15	40	40				20	0.40	0.82
88347	13	Speaking	CR	Core	2	15	20	13	53			13	0.60	0.63
72075	14	Speaking	CR	Core	2	15	27	33	7			33	0.23	0.77
88192	15	Speaking	CR	Core	4	15	33	7	20	7	13	20	0.30	0.74
88217	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	15			93	7			0.93	0.27
88220	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		7	7		87		0.87	0.51
88489	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		27	47	20	7		0.47	0.82
88219	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		93	7				0.93	0.01
88226	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	15				93	7		0.93	0.20
88572	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		7	7	67	20		0.67	0.55
88490	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		27	7	13	53		0.53	0.70
88235	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		27	7	7	60		0.60	0.20
88569	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		13	20	60	7		0.60	0.45

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A6: Grades 6-8: Form D1 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
8057001	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		20	67	7	7		0.67	0.14
8057002	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		33	7	60			0.60	0.52
8057003	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		33	20	7	40		0.33	0.15
8058001	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		7	27	7	60		0.60	0.27
8058002	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		13	7	73	7		0.73	0.39
8058003	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		40	27	33			0.40	0.34
8058005	16	Reading	MC	Core	1	15		20	27	13	40		0.40	0.34
72251	17	Reading	CR	Core	4	15	67	7	7	20			0.20	0.57
88224	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	15	13	80				7	0.80	0.18
88223	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	15	20	73				7	0.73	0.57
88438	3	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		7	27	67			0.67	0.85
88373	4	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		80	20				0.80	0.50
88221	5	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		33	60	7			0.60	0.65
88228	6	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		80	7		13		0.80	0.22
88230	7	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		67	20	7	7		0.67	0.51
88516	8	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		7	20	20	53		0.53	0.22
88517	9	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		7	7	87			0.87	0.12
88188	10	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		13	33	13	40		0.13	0.22
88528	11	Writing	MC	Core	1	15		27	20	47	7		0.47	0.57
88349	12	Writing	CR	Core	1	15	13	80				7	0.80	0.67
72226	13	Writing	CR	Core	2	15	7	40	47			7	0.67	0.28
88215	14	Writing	CR	Core	2	15	27	53	20				0.47	0.64
88216	15	Writing	CR	Core	4	15	7	33	20	27		13	0.38	0.76

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A7: Grades 6-8: Form D2**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88207	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		20	55	17	8	1	0.55	0.26
88251	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		9	17	62	11	1	0.62	0.33
88408	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		5	6	17	71	1	0.71	0.37
88202	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		84	6	6	4	1	0.84	0.34
88203	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		7	13	73	6	1	0.73	0.37
88399	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		92	3	3	1	1	0.92	0.38
8250001	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		15	74	8	2	1	0.74	0.30
8250003	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		16	9	3	72	1	0.72	0.33
8248001	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		2	4	7	86	1	0.86	0.45
8248002	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		10	12	60	16	1	0.60	0.34
8248003	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		15	73	6	5	1	0.73	0.32
8223001	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		9	71	16	3	1	0.71	0.42
8259002	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		26	10	13	50	1	0.50	0.37
8259003	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		13	51	25	10	1	0.51	0.38
8259004	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		24	15	56	4	1	0.56	0.35
8022003	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		85	6	5	3	1	0.85	0.44
8022001	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		5	89	4	2	1	0.89	0.43
8055001	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		12	72	5	10	1	0.72	0.30
8055002	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		82	7	4	6	1	0.82	0.45
8055003	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		3	6	80	10	1	0.80	0.44
8055004	21	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		2	2	4	91	1	0.91	0.43
8021001	22	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		4	7	71	17	1	0.71	0.35
8021002	23	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		67	11	18	3	1	0.67	0.40
8021004	24	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		5	72	11	11	1	0.72	0.36
8021005	25	Listening	MC	Core	1	800		14	15	16	54	1	0.54	0.26
88145	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	0	98				2	0.98	0.37
72097	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	3	96				2	0.96	0.39
72189	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	5	91				4	0.91	0.38
88257	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	1	98				2	0.98	0.42
72069	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	4	94				2	0.94	0.42
72067	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	17	75				9	0.75	0.46
72104	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	26	62				12	0.62	0.48
88211	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	2	97				2	0.97	0.43
72112	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	13	84				3	0.84	0.39
72238	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	14	80				6	0.80	0.46
72091	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	15	82				4	0.82	0.47
72056	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	12	85				3	0.85	0.41
72106	13	Speaking	CR	Core	1	800	9	88				3	0.88	0.45
72073	14	Speaking	CR	Core	2	800	2	33	63			2	0.80	0.62
72074	15	Speaking	CR	Core	2	800	11	38	42			9	0.61	0.55
88192	16	Speaking	CR	Core	4	800	3	10	17	27	39	4	0.70	0.66
88193	17	Speaking	CR	Core	4	800	1	7	14	34	42	2	0.76	0.67
88220	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		3	4	2	91	0	0.91	0.28
88495	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		6	4	88	3	0	0.88	0.39

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A7: Grades 6-8: Form D2 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88572	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		6	4	86	3	0	0.86	0.36
88490	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		8	10	2	80	0	0.80	0.35
88587	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		4	14	71	11	1	0.71	0.35
88488	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		6	40	51	3	1	0.51	0.31
88496	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		5	11	76	8	1	0.76	0.37
88569	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		7	16	66	10	0	0.66	0.33
88507	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		21	70	4	5	0	0.70	0.41
88235	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		5	8	6	81	0	0.81	0.43
88503	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		39	37	9	14	0	0.37	0.26
8024004	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		6	5	86	2	0	0.86	0.36
8024001	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		80	17	1	1	1	0.80	0.34
8024002	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		83	6	5	5	1	0.83	0.45
8024003	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		6	69	18	7	0	0.69	0.35
8270001	16	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		7	5	80	7	1	0.80	0.51
8270002	17	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		4	10	78	9	1	0.78	0.38
8270003	18	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		11	12	9	67	0	0.67	0.37
8253001	19	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		84	9	4	3	0	0.84	0.47
8253005	20	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		3	89	5	3	1	0.89	0.53
8253002	21	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		17	4	77	2	1	0.77	0.43
8253004	22	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		70	16	8	6	1	0.70	0.48
8264001	23	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		20	16	17	46	1	0.46	0.37
8264002	24	Reading	MC	Core	1	800		61	6	13	19	0	0.61	0.45
72252	25	Reading	CR	Core	4	800	28	17	20	12	23		0.47	0.39
88371	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	800	12	87				1	0.87	0.41
88222	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	800	8	91				1	0.91	0.39
88228	3	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		82	9	3	7	1	0.82	0.23
88173	4	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		2	2	1	94	1	0.94	0.37
88619	5	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		18	8	2	70	1	0.70	0.31
88188	6	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		2	3	88	6	1	0.88	0.39
88181	7	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		4	4	1	90	1	0.90	0.48
88516	8	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		6	21	3	69	1	0.69	0.34
88603	9	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		4	91	3	2	1	0.91	0.38
88576	10	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		10	58	18	13	1	0.58	0.34
8028003	11	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		61	15	19	4	1	0.61	0.25
8028005	12	Writing	MC	Core	1	800		9	10	60	20	1	0.60	0.30
88349	13	Writing	CR	Core	1	800	8	91				1	0.91	0.41
72234	14	Writing	CR	Core	2	800	28	35	36			1	0.53	0.49
72148	15	Writing	CR	Core	2	800	43	23	31			3	0.42	0.38
88231	16	Writing	CR	Core	2	800	22	50	25			3	0.50	0.57
88216	17	Writing	CR	Core	4	800	3	25	40	22	7	3	0.49	0.63
72271	18	Writing	CR	Core	4	800	11	41	31	10	2	5	0.35	0.57

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A8: Grades 9-12: Form E1**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88439	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	9			89	11			0.89	-0.16
88200	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		89		11			0.89	-0.25
88250	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		33	56		11		0.56	0.58
88251	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		11	44	33	11		0.33	0.56
88202	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		33	11	11	44		0.33	0.77
88248	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		22	33	11	33		0.33	0.50
8227001	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	9			89	11			0.89	0.19
8227002	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		78			22		0.78	0.59
8227004	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		78	22				0.78	0.45
8231001	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		33	67				0.67	0.70
8231002	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		22		11	67		0.67	0.37
8231003	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		33		67			0.67	0.70
8223001	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		22	56	11	11		0.56	0.46
8031001	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		11		67	22		0.67	0.24
8031002	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		11		78	11		0.11	-0.41
8031003	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		56	44				0.56	0.92
8031004	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	9				11	89		0.89	0.19
8249001	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		22		78			0.78	0.59
8249002	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	9		89		11			0.89	0.28
8249003	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	9			11	11	78		0.78	0.10
88363	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	22	67				11	0.67	0.17
88240	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	22	78					0.78	0.48
88243	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	22	78					0.78	0.59
88257	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	11	78				11	0.78	0.54
72189	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	22	67				11	0.67	0.46
72127	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	22	33				44	0.33	0.81
88194	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9		100					1.00	0.00
88440	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	22	33				44	0.33	0.50
88211	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	56	33				11	0.33	0.50
72112	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	44	44				11	0.44	0.79
72117	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	56	44					0.44	0.08
72118	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	9	44	56					0.56	0.53
72126	13	Speaking	CR	Core	2	9	44	22				33	0.44	0.62
88388	14	Speaking	CR	Core	2	9		56	22			22	0.50	0.84
88192	15	Speaking	CR	Core	4	9			11	33		56	0.31	0.78
88226	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	9				100			1.00	0.00
88260	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	9				11	89		0.89	0.06
88499	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		11		89			0.89	0.48
88498	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		11	11	67	11		0.67	0.38
88495	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		11			44	44	0.44	-0.13
88597	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		33	22	22	22		0.33	0.48
88504	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		44	33	22			0.33	0.48
88271	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		22	56	11	11		0.56	0.67
8032001	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		44	11	11	33		0.44	0.71

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A8: Grades 9-12: Form E1 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
8032002	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	9			78		22		0.78	0.26
8032003	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		89	11				0.89	0.48
8270002	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	9				100			1.00	0.00
8270003	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	9			33	22	44		0.44	0.34
8270001	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		11	11	78			0.78	0.43
8264001	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		11	11		78		0.78	-0.27
8264002	16	Reading	MC	Core	1	9		56	22	22			0.56	0.67
72136	17	Reading	CR	Core	4	9	56	22	22				0.17	0.78
88223	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	9	11	89					0.89	0.54
88222	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	9	44	56					0.56	0.35
88390	3	Writing	CR	Core	1	9	56	44					0.44	0.19
88275	4	Writing	MC	Core	1	9		78		11	11		0.78	0.68
88444	5	Writing	MC	Core	1	9		44	11	11	33		0.33	-0.34
88266	6	Writing	MC	Core	1	9			11	78	11		0.78	-0.30
88267	7	Writing	MC	Core	1	9		22			78		0.78	-0.38
88603	8	Writing	MC	Core	1	9		33	56		11		0.56	0.44
88619	9	Writing	MC	Core	1	9		22		11	67		0.67	0.03
88517	10	Writing	MC	Core	1	9				89	11		0.89	0.54
72226	11	Writing	CR	Core	2	9		33	67				0.83	0.29
72137	12	Writing	CR	Core	2	9	22	67	11				0.44	0.16
88215	13	Writing	CR	Core	2	9	33	22	44				0.56	0.75
88265	14	Writing	CR	Core	4	9		44	33	22			0.44	0.50

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A9: Grades 9-12: Form E2**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88250	1	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		4	85	3	5	2	0.85	0.43
88251	2	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		4	10	80	4	2	0.80	0.41
88202	3	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		92	2	3	1	2	0.92	0.49
88246	4	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		13	69	10	7	2	0.69	0.39
8228002	5	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		1	1	95	1	2	0.95	0.43
8228001	6	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		80	2	17	1	2	0.80	0.32
8229001	7	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		5	87	4	2	2	0.87	0.42
8229003	8	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		1	4	93	1	2	0.93	0.50
8230001	9	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		11	10	48	28	2	0.48	0.27
8230002	10	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		48	18	22	11	2	0.48	0.32
8230003	11	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		7	6	6	78	2	0.78	0.46
8230004	12	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		16	65	10	6	2	0.65	0.27
8223001	13	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		6	84	7	1	2	0.84	0.44
8263001	14	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		7	76	10	5	2	0.76	0.37
8263002	15	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		66	6	13	13	2	0.66	0.40
8263003	16	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		19	8	66	5	2	0.66	0.29
8056001	17	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		89	4	2	2	2	0.89	0.49
8056003	18	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		5	86	6	1	2	0.86	0.50
8056004	19	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		2	3	89	4	2	0.89	0.48
8056005	20	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		4	4	84	5	2	0.84	0.54
8063002	21	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		14	78	4	2	2	0.78	0.47
8063003	22	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		81	4	4	9	2	0.81	0.44
8063001	23	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		9	12	21	55	2	0.55	0.39
8063004	24	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		12	11	22	53	2	0.53	0.37
8063005	25	Listening	MC	Core	1	856		8	13	68	9	2	0.68	0.46
88243	1	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	0	95				4	0.95	0.71
88236	2	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	1	94				4	0.94	0.68
88254	3	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	4	92				4	0.92	0.63
72113	4	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	1	95				4	0.95	0.71
72112	5	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	5	91				4	0.91	0.60
88257	6	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	0	96				4	0.96	0.72
72127	7	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	1	94				4	0.94	0.69
72124	8	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	4	92				4	0.92	0.61
72121	9	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	29	63				8	0.63	0.36
72065	10	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	15	79				6	0.79	0.51
72245	11	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	4	91				4	0.91	0.62
72247	12	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	6	89				4	0.89	0.62
72107	13	Speaking	CR	Core	1	856	4	91				5	0.91	0.65
72125	14	Speaking	CR	Core	2	856	2	32	63			4	0.78	0.65
72109	15	Speaking	CR	Core	2	856	11	45	38			6	0.60	0.55
88238	16	Speaking	CR	Core	4	856	2	8	20	33	32	5	0.69	0.68
88389	17	Speaking	CR	Core	4	856	1	9	18	30	35	6	0.69	0.66
88498	1	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		3	2	90	4	1	0.90	0.26
88506	2	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		8	83	3	5	1	0.83	0.25

Appendix A: Item Difficulty and Discrimination data (Continued)**Table A9: Grades 9-12: Form E2 (Continued)**

Item ID	Seq #	Modality	Item Type	Item Status	Max. Point	N-count	0	1/A	2/B	3/C	4/D	Omit	P-Value	Point Biserial
88597	3	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		96	2	1	1	1	0.96	0.27
88596	4	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		2	2	5	90	1	0.90	0.43
88508	5	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		16	12	68	4	1	0.68	0.35
88271	6	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		3	90	2	3	1	0.90	0.30
88507	7	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		14	78	5	2	1	0.78	0.38
88495	8	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		3	1	93	2	1	0.93	0.45
88593	9	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		10	6	21	62	1	0.62	0.29
88599	10	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		10	62	17	10	1	0.62	0.27
88504	11	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		16	78	4	1	1	0.78	0.44
88502	12	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		18	7	72	2	1	0.72	0.40
8266001	13	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		5	87	3	4	1	0.87	0.41
8266002	14	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		3	2	1	93	1	0.93	0.50
8266003	15	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		3	4	83	9	1	0.83	0.44
8264001	16	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		13	8	15	63	1	0.63	0.44
8264002	17	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		83	4	5	7	1	0.83	0.46
8067003	18	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		8	9	14	67	2	0.67	0.47
8067002	19	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		23	17	49	9	2	0.49	0.24
8067004	20	Reading	MC	Core	1	856		72	7	10	9	2	0.72	0.40
8067005	21	Reading	CR	Core	4	856	30	29	27	6	2	6	0.27	0.26
72256	22	Reading	CR	Core	4	856	25	11	13	16	35		0.56	0.23
88222	1	Writing	CR	Core	1	856	6	91				2	0.91	0.36
88263	2	Writing	CR	Core	1	856	18	80				2	0.80	0.47
88275	3	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		92	2	2	2	2	0.92	0.43
88444	4	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		27	1	4	66	2	0.66	0.33
88536	5	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		35	13	46	3	2	0.35	0.26
88628	6	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		7	10	70	11	2	0.70	0.46
88619	7	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		24	4	2	68	2	0.68	0.26
88616	8	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		8	81	5	4	2	0.81	0.42
88395	9	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		2	37	1	58	2	0.58	0.25
88392	10	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		3	90	4	1	2	0.90	0.43
88535	11	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		11	10	72	5	2	0.72	0.34
8037001	12	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		74	14	6	4	2	0.74	0.47
8037003	13	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		4	81	10	3	2	0.81	0.54
8037004	14	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		8	56	8	25	2	0.56	0.39
8037005	15	Writing	MC	Core	1	856		14	4	13	66	3	0.66	0.44
72283	16	Writing	CR	Core	2	856	10	32	56			2	0.72	0.52
72270	17	Writing	CR	Core	2	856	27	21	49			3	0.60	0.47
88277	18	Writing	CR	Core	4	856	5	16	42	25	6	5	0.50	0.56
72288	19	Writing	CR	Core	4	856	9	19	34	21	5	12	0.43	0.40

MontCAS

(Montana Comprehensive Assessment System)

English Language
Proficiency Assessment

2009-2010

Score Reports Interpretation Guide



opi.mt.gov

Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

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Overview

The purpose of this guide is to assist educators and other stakeholders with understanding, interpreting, and using the results of the Montana English Language Proficiency Assessment. The MontCAS ELP is administered statewide to all Limited English Proficient (LEP) students.

The guide includes information on

- how and why the MontCAS ELP was developed,
- how the assessments are designed,
- how student performance is scored,
- how performance standards were determined,
- how assessment results are reported, and
- how results can be used to improve programs, instruction, and student performance.

Purpose of the MontCAS ELP. The annual assessment of LEP students in Montana fulfills a requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. One objective is to measure individual student's progress in achieving proficiency in speaking, listening to, comprehending, reading, and writing English. A second objective is to measure the success of language development programs in achieving adequate student growth in English proficiency in districts participating in Title III.

Development of the MontCAS ELP. The MontCAS ELP is an edited version of the English Language Proficiency test developed for the Mountain West Consortium, of which Montana was a member. The MontCAS ELP was administered for the fourth time (as the 2009-2010 MontCAS ELP) in the fall of 2009 (the first administration was in the fall of 2006). The

forms were an alternate set of forms, which include some items from previously administered test forms and some new items. The 2009-2010 forms have been equated to the 2008-2009 forms so that results from the 2009 administration are reported on the same scale as previous MontCAS ELP results. In addition, the cut scores previously established in 2006 for each proficiency level by grade apply to 2009 results as well as those from 2008 and 2007.

Structure of the MontCAS ELP. The MontCAS ELP is comprised of tests in four domains—Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. Scores are reported for each of these domains, as well as for Comprehension. The Comprehension score is calculated using a subset of Listening and Reading items.

The MontCAS ELP is administered by grade span.

Grade Span	Form
K	A
1-2	B1 or B2
3-5	C1 or C2
6-8	D1 or D2
9-12	E1 or E2

In all grade spans, except for K, there are two separate test forms, a Level 1 form intended for Beginning students and a Level 2 form intended for more proficient students. Note that no “mixed” scores can be reported: if, for example, a student took both B1 and B2 test forms, results have been reported for only one form.

Reported Scores. Student performance in each of the five language domains and on the overall (Total MontCAS ELP) test is reported in terms of raw score, scaled score, and proficiency level.

Raw Scores. The raw score is the total number of correct answers on multiple-choice items plus the number of points earned on open-ended items. Raw scores on the MontCAS ELP can only be compared for the same domain and the same test form. For example, a Form B1 raw score cannot be compared to a Form B2 raw score.

Note: The Writing raw score for (Kindergarten level) Form A was calculated as follows: 1 point was allocated for each skill on the Writing Checklist that the student “does most of the time” or of which they “demonstrate mastery.” Thus, the Writing Checklist generated a maximum raw score of 22 points.

Scaled Scores. Scaled scores are derived from raw scores and provide results for alternate forms (e.g., B1 and B2) on a common scale. MontCAS ELP scaled scores can be compared for the same domain and the same grade-span test (A, B, C, D or E). For example, all Form C Reading scaled scores can be compared, regardless of whether the student took the C1 or the C2 Reading test. However, Form C scaled scores cannot be compared to Form D scaled scores.

Total MontCAS ELP Proficiency Levels. For the total score, four proficiency levels are reported: Novice (N), Nearing Proficiency (NP), Proficient (P), and Advanced (A). These are based on the total scaled score and provide a holistic estimate of the student’s English proficiency. It is important to note that students at the same overall Proficiency Level may have different profiles of competence across the language domains.

Domain Proficiency Levels. Within each domain, two proficiency levels are reported, based on the student’s scaled score: Below Proficient (BP) and Proficient or Above (PA). (Individual language domain tests are not long enough to reliably provide more than two levels of proficiency.)

Incomplete Testing. Students were required to take all four language domain tests. If a student did not take one or more of the domain tests, the reports will show dashes in place of scores for that domain. The reported Total MontCAS ELP score is based on the domain tests for which there are scores. Thus, if a student failed to take the Speaking Test for whatever reason, the Total MontCAS ELP score will be based on a raw score of zero in Speaking. The reported Comprehension scores—which are based on a subset of Listening and Reading scores—will be affected in the same way if the student failed to take either the Listening or Reading Test.

Cut Scores. The table below shows the MontCAS ELP Total scaled score range that corresponds to each proficiency level. Within a grade cluster (e.g., 3-5), cut scores may vary across each grade. Scaled scores should not be compared across grade clusters (e.g., 1-2 versus 3-5) but can be compared within a grade cluster. In those grade clusters with level 1 and 2 forms, the cut scores in each grade are the same regardless of the form administered.

Forms	Grade	Scaled Score Range for Proficiency Levels			
		Novice (N)	Nearing Proficiency (NP)	Proficient (P)	Advanced (A)
A	K	Below 363	363-395	396-424	At or Above 425
B1/B2	1	Below 345	345-373	374-420	At or Above 421
	2	Below 373	373-407	408-465	At or Above 466
C1/C2	3	Below 361	361-383	384-416	At or Above 417
	4	Below 374	374-396	397-429	At or Above 430
	5	Below 387	387-406	407-453	At or Above 454
D1/D2	6	Below 367	367-388	389-412	At or Above 413
	7	Below 367	367-391	392-419	At or Above 420
	8	Below 370	370-391	392-436	At or Above 437
E1/E2	9	Below 370	370-392	393-420	At or Above 421
	10	Below 373	373-395	396-423	At or Above 424
	11	Below 376	376-399	400-434	At or Above 435
	12	Below 376	376-399	400-434	At or Above 435

Individual Student Report

Student	GRAY, JIMMY
School	ABC School
System	ABC System (9999)
Grade	7
Test Form	D2
State Student ID	123333789
Birth Date	05/14/1996
Gender	M
Test Date	Fall 2009

The NCLB Act of 2001 requires an annual assessment of English language proficiency for students identified as limited English proficient (LEP). The purpose of the assessment is to measure students' progress in achieving proficiency in academic English. The MontCAS English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment measures proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension (domains). The comprehension score is a composite score based on the listening and reading sections.

Novice students are beginning to participate in oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information.

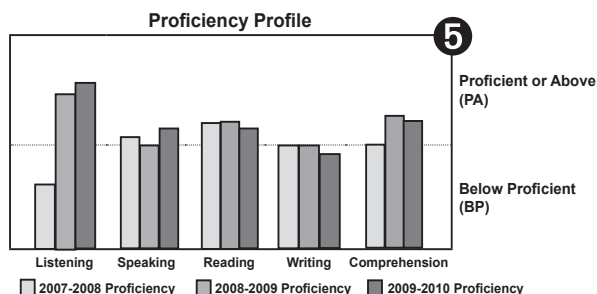
Nearing Proficient students demonstrate partial mastery of oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information.

Proficient students demonstrate competent skills in oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information in order to participate in academic work.

Advanced students demonstrate exceptional skills in oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information in order to participate in academic work.

2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010 Total MontCAS ELP		
Proficiency Level	Raw Score (Max RS=105)	Scaled Score	Proficiency Level
Proficient (P)	89	415	Proficient (P)
	State Average Scaled Score	402.4	

2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010 Score Summary				
Proficiency Level	Test		Raw Score	Scaled Score	Proficiency Level
PA	L	Listening (Max RS=25)	22	107	PA
PA	S	Speaking (Max RS=25)	22	106	PA
PA	R	Reading (Max RS=28)	26	113	PA
PA	W	Writing (Max RS=27)	19	104	PA
PA	C	Comprehension (Max RS=48)	45	113	PA



Legend: RS: Raw Score; Max RS: Maximum Possible Raw Score; SS: Scaled Score; -- indicates test not taken BP = Below Proficient PA = Proficient or Above

Run Date: mm/dd/yy

1 Test Form. Test forms are identified by a letter-number combination. The letter (A, B, C, D, or E) specifies the grade-span; the number specifies the difficulty level of the form (1 is for LEP students with beginner or novice skills in English; 2 is for the more proficient students). The exception is grade K (Form A), which does not have separate ability-level forms.

2 State Student ID. The state student ID is a unique number that is assigned to every student who receives educational services from a public school in Montana. This number follows the student from school to school throughout his or her K-12 career. The ID consists of 9 randomly generated digits, with no leading zeros.

3 The Raw Score is the total number of correct answers on multiple-choice items plus the number of points earned on open-ended items. A raw score can only be interpreted within the context of a given test form. Raw scores cannot be used to compare performance on different test forms. Scaled scores or scores derived from scaled scores should be used for those comparisons.

4 Scaled Scores are derived from raw scores and provide results for alternate forms (e.g., Forms B1 and B2) on a common scale. Scaled scores can be used to make comparisons among students and over time. However, scaled scores cannot be compared across test levels (e.g., B vs. C), or across different tests (e.g., Listening vs. Reading). To compare across different test levels, scaled scores must be converted to Proficiency Levels.

5 The Proficiency Profile summarizes ability across the language domains as well as growth from one year to the next, if a student has taken the MontCAS ELP for at least two years. The height of the bars shows how ability differs by language domain. The dotted line in the middle of the Proficiency Profile chart marks the cut score between the Below Proficient (BP) and the Proficient or Above (PA) levels, allowing you to see where student ability falls with respect to this criterion.

6 Proficiency Levels provide a holistic estimate of the student's English proficiency.

In general terms, the levels are:

Novice (N) – Students are beginning to participate in oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information.

Nearing Proficiency (NP) – Students demonstrate partial mastery of oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information.

Proficient (P) – Students demonstrate competent skills in oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information in order to participate in academic work.

Advanced (A) – Students demonstrate exceptional skills in oral and written interactions of learned information to socialize, produce, and obtain information in order to participate in academic work.

Parent Report

The results of your student's English Language Proficiency Assessment are shown in this report by raw score, scaled score and performance level.

Raw score refers to the number of points a student has earned for a particular test. Raw scores should not be compared across language domains. A maximum raw score is shown for each language domain and the Total MontCAS.

Scaled scores are derived from raw scores and permit comparisons between level 1 and 2 forms (e.g., Form C1 and C2) within a grade cluster. Scaled scores range from 0 to 200 in the component tests and from 0 to 700 in the Total MontCAS ELP.

Performance levels describe a student's performance on the MontCAS ELP assessment and are based on the total scaled score. The MontCAS ELP reports four performance levels for the total score (N, NP, P, A), which are organized into two groups for each domain (BP, PA). These performance levels are described in more detail on the back cover.

Score Summary. The Score Summary chart provides your student's results for each of five components of the ELP assessment: Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Comprehension. The maximum raw score (Max RS) is indicated for each component. For example, the maximum raw score (Max RS) that could be earned for the Listening test was 25 points.

2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010 Score Summary				
Proficiency Level	Test		Raw Score	Scaled Score	Proficiency Level
PA	L	Listening (Max RS=25)	22	107	PA
PA	S	Speaking (Max RS=25)	22	106	PA
PA	R	Reading (Max RS=28)	26	113	PA
PA	W	Writing (Max RS=27)	19	104	PA
PA	C	Comprehension (Max RS=48)	45	113	PA

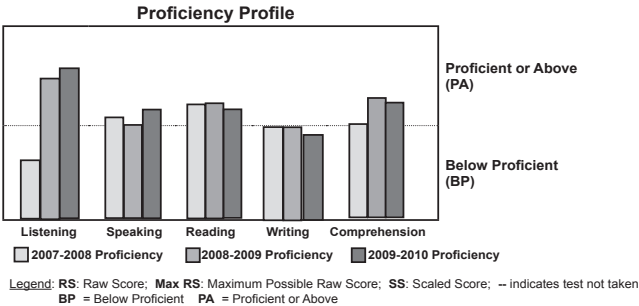
YOUR STUDENT'S RESULTS

The following charts show your student's performance on the English Language Proficiency Assessment. These charts include raw scores, scaled scores, and performance levels.

Total MontCAS ELP. This table indicates your student's overall performance on the 2009 - 2010 assessment. For comparative purposes, your student's overall proficiency level for last year, 2008 - 2009, and average state results for the current year are included. The score summary and proficiency profile on the next page provide more detailed information about how your child performed in each language domain.

2008 - 2009	2009 - 2010 Total MontCAS ELP		
Proficiency Level	Raw Score (Max RS=105)	Scaled Score	Proficiency Level
Proficient (P)	89	415	Proficient (P)
	State Average Scaled Score	402.4	

Proficiency Profile. The profile indicates your student's performance across the language domains, as well as growth from one year to the next.



A customized parent report was generated for each LEP student who participated in the fall 2009 MontCAS English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment. This report was based on the school-level individual student report and should be shared by classroom teachers during parent-teacher conferences or other interactions with parents. The report includes detailed results of a student's ELP test performance, including raw scores, scaled scores and performance levels, in each language domain and for the total MontCAS ELP. The proficiency profile permits a comparison of student ability across the language domains and in comparison to average performance across the state.

Section A provides an explanation of terms—raw score, scaled scores, and performance levels—used in the Parent Report.

Section B shows the student's overall performance on the

assessment in the Total MontCAS ELP table. The student's total raw score, scaled score, and proficiency level are provided, along with the Average State Scaled Score for this grade, for comparison.

Section C provides more detailed information about student performance in the Score Summary chart. The chart shows student results for each component of the ELP assessment: Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Comprehension. The raw score, scaled score, and proficiency levels are listed for each of the five components.

Section D illustrates student performance in relation to the proficiency levels for up to 3 years (2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010), if a student took the MontCAS ELP assessment more than one year. The Proficiency Profile chart shows the scaled score "cut" line between proficiency levels Below Proficient (BP) and Proficient or Above (PA).



**CONFIDENTIAL
SCHOOL ROSTER**
English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment
Grade 8
A 2009 - 2010



ABC School

SYSTEM: **ABC System (9999)**

Test Date: Fall 2009

B	Student Name	Gender	Test Form	C Listening			Speaking			Reading			Writing			Comprehension			D Total		
	Number of Students Listed: 10			RS	SS	Prof	RS	SS	Prof	RS	SS	Prof	RS	SS	Prof	RS	SS	Prof	RS	SS	Proficiency Level
	BLANEY, THOMAS G. State ID#: 123456789 DOB: 01/21/1995	M	D2	20	101	PA	17	95	BP	15	92	BP	5	77	BP	33	96	PA	57	382	Nearing Proficiency
	CRUZ, ROBERT † State ID#: 123467890 DOB: 04/05/1995	M	D2	18	97	PA	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	86	BP	23	88	BP	27	355	Novice
	DE NIRO, RENEE State ID#: 235678907 DOB: 07/21/1996	F	D2	18	97	PA	22	106	PA	7	80	BP	5	77	BP	23	88	BP	52	378	Nearing Proficiency
	FOSTER, BILLY L. State ID#: 435621897 DOB: 08/01/1995	M	D2	21	104	PA	22	106	PA	15	92	BP	11	89	BP	34	97	PA	69	393	Proficient
	GRANT, KIRSTEN T. State ID#: 860847350 DOB: 12/03/1995	F	D2	21	104	PA	20	101	PA	16	93	BP	18	102	PA	35	98	PA	75	398	Proficient
	LAW, JULIA D. State ID#: 975089899 DOB: 10/20/1995	F	D2	20	101	PA	17	95	BP	9	83	BP	8	84	BP	27	91	BP	54	380	Nearing Proficiency
	MILLER, JUDE D. State ID#: 775534221 DOB: 09/22/1995	M	D2	17	96	PA	22	106	PA	18	96	PA	9	86	BP	33	96	PA	66	390	Nearing Proficiency
	RAVEN, ANDREW State ID#: 896453311 DOB: 06/12/1996	M	D2	20	101	PA	22	106	PA	11	86	BP	12	91	BP	29	92	BP	65	389	Nearing Proficiency
	STRONG, TREVOR State ID#: 353243678 DOB: 06/11/1996	M	D2	19	99	PA	20	101	PA	18	96	PA	13	93	BP	34	97	PA	70	393	Proficient
	WILSON, ALAN State ID#: 796685767 DOB: 05/31/1996	M	D2	21	104	PA	22	106	PA	18	96	PA	18	102	PA	40	103	PA	79	402	Proficient

Legend: **RS**: Raw Score; **Max RS**: Maximum Possible Raw Score; **SS**: Scaled Score; -- indicates test not taken **BP** = Below Proficient **PA** = Proficient or Above
Note: Any students who took the assessment with non-standard accommodations are marked with † symbol.

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Run Date: mm/dd/yyyy

The MontCAS ELP School Roster report lists all students—in a single school in a single grade—who took the MontCAS ELP in a certain year. The School Roster report includes the following information:

Section A shows the grade, the assessment year, the school name, and system name.

Section B lists each student alphabetically, along with his or her state student ID number, date of birth, and gender. The Test Form column identifies the specific test form administered to the students.

Section C lists each student's raw score (RS), scaled score (SS), and proficiency level (Prof), in each language domain (Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing,

and Comprehension). Note that the Comprehension score is based on a subset of items from the Listening and Reading sections of the assessment. The language domain proficiency levels are: Below Proficient (BP) and Proficient or Above (PA).

Section D lists each student's Total MontCAS ELP raw score, total scaled score, and proficiency level: Novice (N), Nearing Proficiency (NP), Proficient (P), or Advanced (A).

Summary Report

SYSTEM: **ABC System (9999)**

Test Form: **E1, E2**
Test Date: **Fall 2009**

B	Proficiency Level	Listening		Speaking		Reading		Writing		Comprehension		Proficiency Level	Total		
		Scaled Score Range	Number and Percent of Students	Scaled Score Range	Number and Percent of Students	Scaled Score Range	Number and Percent of Students	Scaled Score Range	Number and Percent of Students	Scaled Score Range	Number and Percent of Students		Scaled Score Range	Number of Students	Percent
	Proficient or Above (PA)	At or Above 100	7 (50%)	At or Above 100	21 (95%)	At or Above 100	10 (71%)	At or Above 100	10 (71%)	At or Above 100	8 (57%)	Advanced (A)	At or Above 435	2	9%
												Proficient (P)	400 - 434	8	36%
	Below Proficient (BP)	Below 100	7 (50%)	Below 100	1 (5%)	Below 100	4 (29%)	Below 100	4 (29%)	Below 100	6 (43%)	Nearing Proficiency (NP)	376 - 399	4	18%
												Novice (N)	Below 376	8	36%

D	N Students:	14*	N Students:	22	N Students:	14*	N Students:	14*	N Students:	14*	N Students:	22
	Mean Scaled Score:		Mean Scaled Score:		Mean Scaled Score:		Mean Scaled Score:		Mean Scaled Score:		Mean Scaled Score:	
	System:	103.1	System:	114.9	System:	104.4	System:	104.6	System:	102.4	System:	390.8
	State:	103.4	State:	106.7	State:	102.8	State:	104.7	State:	101.9	State:	403.0
	Median Scaled Score:		Median Scaled Score:		Median Scaled Score:		Median Scaled Score:		Median Scaled Score:		Median Scaled Score:	
	System:	98	System:	113	System:	105	System:	100	System:	101	System:	394
	State:	104	State:	103	State:	103	State:	106	State:	102	State:	404

Legend: **Mean Scaled Score:** The arithmetic average of a set of scaled scores. It is found by adding all the scores in the distribution and dividing by the total number of scores.
Median Scaled Score: The middle score in a distribution or set of ranked scaled scores. Half the scores in the set are below the median, and half are above it (the 50th percentile).

The MontCAS ELP System and School Summary Reports show the distribution of scores by grade within a system or school. The reports are produced even if the number of LEP students in a particular grade is very small. Reports for less than 10 students include a footer indicating that they may not be distributed to the public; the student information is protected by The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99).

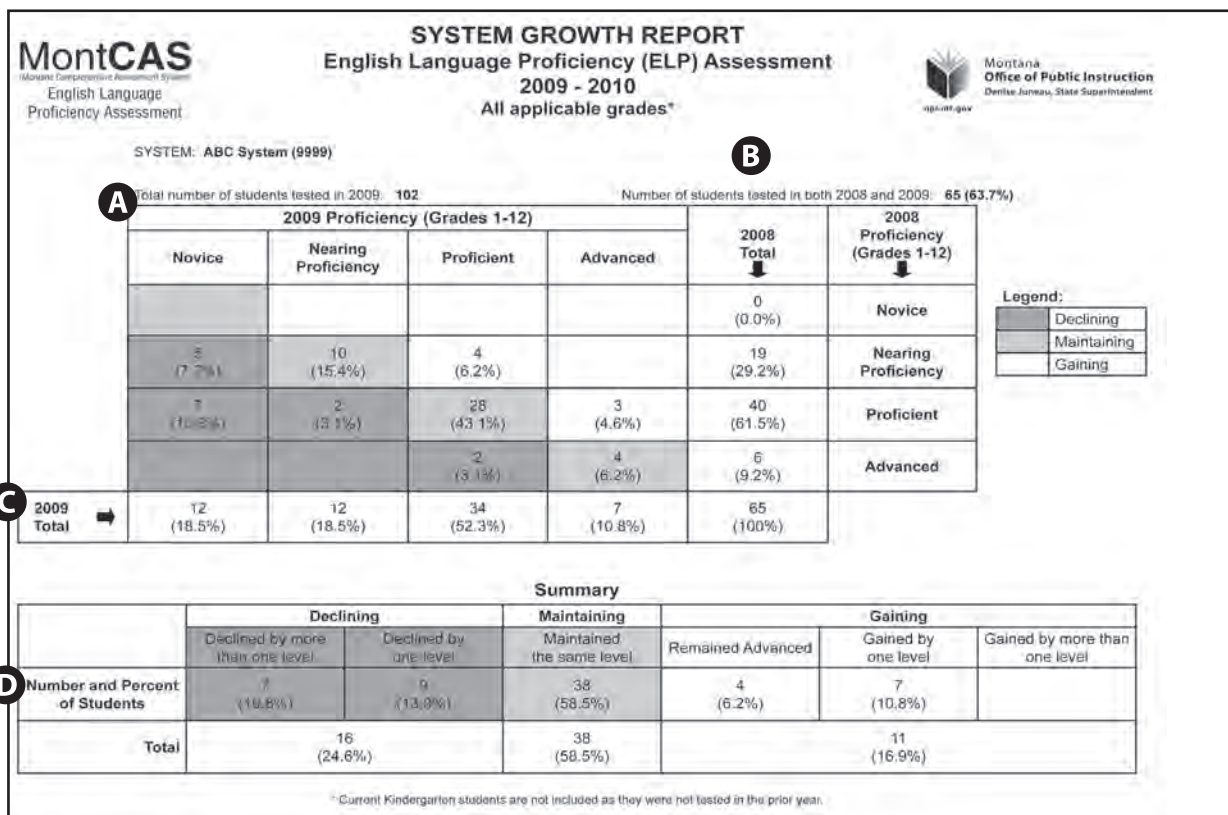
Section A shows the grade, the assessment year, and the system name.

Section B For each language domain (Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing, and Comprehension), the report shows—in the Number and Percent of Students columns—the number and percent of students whose scores placed them in each of the two Proficiency Level groupings: Below Proficient (BP) and Proficient or Above (PA).

Section C The Total MontCAS ELP section shows scaled scores corresponding to each of 4 overall proficiency levels—Novice (N), Nearing Proficiency (NP), Proficient (P), and Advanced (A). The Number of Students column

shows the number of students whose performance placed them in each category and the Percent column represents that number as a percentage of the students in this grade who were tested. For example, the 8 in the Proficient (P) cell of the sample report above indicates that 8 students in the system scored in the Proficient (P) range, which is 36% of the students in this grade.

Section D The N Students line shows the total number of students in the system in this grade for whom there is a language domain score and a total score. For example, the sample report shows that 22 11th-grade students took the Speaking Test. The Mean Scaled Score line shows the average scaled score in each domain and overall for all tested students in the system. For example, the sample report shows that the mean scaled score on the Speaking Test for this system was 114.9. The Median Scaled Score line shows the median scaled score in each domain and overall. The state mean and median are also shown for each domain and overall. Note that means and medians are shown only if N is 10 or greater.



The MontCAS ELP System Growth Report shows the proficiency level profile within a system for those students who were assessed with the MontCAS ELP in both 2008 and 2009 (and have been confirmed by a State ID # match). Please note that System Growth Reports are provided only when there are 10 or more students who were tested (and matched by State ID #) in both 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 MontCAS ELP assessments. If the system has fewer than 10 students, Individual Reports should be examined to determine growth. The Growth Report includes the following information:

Section A shows the system name and total number of students from the designated grade or grades tested in 2009. The sample report shows growth for grades 1-12. Kindergarten is not included in the sample because these students were not tested in the prior year.

Section B shows the total number (and percentage) of students assessed in 2009 and matched by State ID # to 2008.

Section C shows a distribution of students by proficiency level for both 2008 and 2009 and how the proficiency of students in 2008 changed in 2009. Student proficiency level in 2008 is shown in the rows and summarized in the

second to the last column on the right. So, for example, 19 students (29.2%) performed at the Nearing Proficiency level and 40 students (61.5%) at the Proficient level in 2008. Student proficiency level in 2009 is shown in the columns and summarized in the last row on the bottom. So, for example, 34 students (52.3%) performed at the Proficient level in 2009. Thus comparing the 2008 Total column to the bottom row (2009 Total) shows how the distribution of performance for these students changed from 2008 to 2009. Each cell in the table shows how the students at a particular level in 2008 changed in 2009. So, for example, of those 40 students (middle row) who performed at the Proficient level in 2008, 28 (43.1%) tested at Proficient in 2009, and 4.6% tested at Advanced. The cells on the diagonal (upper left to lower right) show students whose proficiency level did not change. Those below the diagonal declined one or more levels from 2008 to 2009 and those above the diagonal gained one or more levels from 2008 to 2009.

Section D summarizes the changes from 2008 to 2009 shown in the upper panel. The bottom row aggregates students according to how their level changed and categorizes them as declining, maintaining, or gaining. Students who tested at Advanced (A) in both 2008 and 2009 were counted in the 'gaining' category.

Using MontCAS ELP Results

Monitoring Progress. MontCAS ELP test results can be used to determine whether students are making progress in developing English proficiency overall and within each language domain. To make comparisons between one year and the next, proficiency levels should be used. (Note that within a grade span, scaled scores can also be compared from year to year, as long as the student is being assessed with the same-letter form. Scaled scores cannot be used to monitor progress from year to year when students have moved to the next grade span, that is, in 1st grade, 3rd grade, 6th grade, and 9th grade.)

Informing Instruction. MontCAS ELP test results can be used to design instruction that capitalizes on students' strengths and addresses their weaknesses. Proficiency levels provide useful information on an individual student's profile across the language domains. For example, two students may both score as Proficient overall but have different strengths and weaknesses in the language domains. One may be lagging behind in Speaking, the other in Reading. With this information, instruction can be tailored to the individual student's needs.

Montana's Definition of "Proficient" for LEP Students Who Participate in the English Language Proficiency Assessment

In order to determine when LEP students become proficient, districts will take into account multiple measures which include:

- A score of Proficient (P) or Advanced (A) overall on the ELP assessment along with a rating of Proficient or Above (PA) in all domains (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing). Students scoring as Proficient (P) should demonstrate a proficient score on the ELP assessment for two consecutive years. Students scoring as Advanced (A), along with additional measures and teacher input, would be considered proficient and not expected to take the ELP assessment again.
- Input from additional measures of reading, writing, or language development available from school assessments that link to the district process in place for the identification of LEP students.

This recommendation is based on input from representative school district staff members that serve LEP students across the state, a review of practices in other states, and input from psychometricians.



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

